Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-92-117
Wednesday
17 June 1992

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FBIS-LAT-92-117 *17 June 1992*

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NOTICE TO READERS: An • indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NOTICE TO READERS CONCERNING EARTH SUMMIT: Reportage on the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro will be published in special Latin America DAILY REPORT supplements.

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Reaction to U.S. Supreme Court Ruling

Buenos Aires TELAM reports that "the Argentine Government was studying a formal diplomatic answer to a controversial U.S. Supreme Court ruling that endorses the seizing of people in foreign countries for trial in U.S. courts. Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella has said the ruling was 'shocking'." He also warned that it would be "very serious if an abduction or something similar to what the U.S. Supreme Court has authorized ever happens in our territory," according to TELAM.

La Paz TV reports that "Bolivian Vice President Luis Ossio Sanjines and Army Commander in Chief General Oscar Vargas Lorenzetti believe that the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that authorizes the abduction of criminals in any country in the world without the authorization of the affected country violates the sovereignty of other states."

"A U.S. Supreme Court ruling that authorizes the abduction of people from other countries to stand trial in the United States has unleashed an international crisis," according to Rio de Janeiro TV, which reports that Justice Minister Celio Borja stated that "the U.S. Supreme Court ruling violates the principle of sovereignty to which each country is entitled."

Santiago radio reports that the Chilean Government has "rejected a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that legalized the abduction in other countries of people indicted by U.S. courts," according to Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma. The radio also reports on Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt's visit to Chile where he said that "Sweden does not accept extraterritoriality."

Santa Fe de Bogota TV notes that Colombia "strongly rejects the U.S. Supreme Court ruling and has asked the State Department to issue its opinion on whether the U.S. Government is going to use this tool in its struggle against crime." The foreign minister and justice minister issued a joint communique on the subject.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez labeled the U.S. Supreme Court ruling a "supranational pretension," adding that "a nation can act only within its own territory, and it is impossible to accept one nation's judicial or political jurisdiction over other nations' territories," reports NOTIMEX.

AFP reports that "with the exception of Guatemala," Central America has reacted "cautiously" to the U.S Supreme Court decision. The Costa Rican justice minister stated the ruling was "a total blunder that violates the principles of international law." "The Governments of Panama, Honduras, and El Salvador remained silent or said they had to study the matter thoroughly because 'it was very sensitive.'" The Guatemalan foreign minister "reacted angrily" and said the decision constituted "intervention in the internal affairs of other nations and an attack against the sovereignty of their peoples."

The Honduran Government has "rejected the idea that the law approved by the U.S. Supreme Court...can be applied in this country," reports NOTIMEX. Government Minister Francisco Cardona stated kidnapping of a Honduran citizen "would be an attack against this nation." "The Constitution of Tegucigalpa prohibits the extradition of its citizens to another country," the press agency adds.

Mexico

NOTIMEX reports that "Mexico and the United States have begun to revise their judicial cooperation programs against drug trafficking programs. During the meetings the two countries will revise the extradition treaty annulled by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that denied the extradition of a Mexican kidnapped and tried for the murder of a U.S. DEA agent." Also, the Mexican Foreign Secretariat "decided to resume, temporarily, the battle against drug trafficking program established between the two governments so as 'not to give the wrong signals to drug traffickers.'"

UNCED Secretary General Talks About Summit

PY1606183892 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Jun 92 Rio 92 Section p 1

[Interview with UNCED [UN Conference on Environment and Development] Secretary General Maurice Strong by unidentified reporter on 14 June in Rio de Janeiro]

[Text] [O GLOBO] How do you assess the Rio-92 Conference?

[Strong] As a conference, it was a great success; but by itself, the conference does not change any of the global problems that were discussed in these last 12 days. As for results, we can only assess them based on the actions that the different governments and societies will adopt. Twenty years ago, I heard many people say the same things that were said here. But we are still far from reaching our goals. We have yet to implement what was proposed in Stockholm. The problem is that we do not have another 20 years to waste. We must act now.

[O GLOBO] If the United Nations lacks mechanisms to assess the actions undertaken by the different countries, how will it be possible to compel these countries to uphold the commitments encompassed in Agenda 21?

[Strong] Personally, I am in favor of implementing a system where the different countries may render account of their actions either within the framework of the United Nations or outside of it. But political commitments and the willingness to carry them through are more important than legal pressures. Political will is what we lacked in Stockholm. My closing speech in Rio de Janeiro was not much different than the one I delivered 20 years ago. Agenda 21 contains more political commitments than any other political document. It is an innovative document because it definitely associates ecology with economy. But it is essential for each country to demand that its government leaders implement these commitments.

[O GLOBO] The United Nations intends to establish a high-level committee, the Sustainable Development Council. Who will take part in this council?

[Strong] I believe this committee should be at the cabinet level. The United Nations has no power to sanction any measures and so it is important for the committee to be made up of people who, in their own countries, are empowered to implement practical measures. The United Nations has very little influence on matters concerning financial, commercial, or international tariffs. Only recently the World Bank and the IMF have begun to participate in UNCED debates. The United Nations made a great effort to have economy ministers participate in the preparatory meetings, but only in the final stages did governments realize that the discussions were not the exclusive concern of environment ministers. Despite their importance, environment ministers are not responsible for implementing their countries' financial policies.

[O GLOBO] Are you disappointed about any particular issue?

[Strong] Despite the fact that they are good initiatives, I am disappointed with the Climate Changes Treaty and the chapter on finances in Agenda 21. I am disappointed because we were unable to fix timetables and specific objectives to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Regarding financing, I had hoped to achieve firmer commitments from some of the richer countries. We will lack sufficient funds for sustainable development if we do not change the current financial system. We must find new sources of funds through international taxes or licenses on toxic gas emissions.

[O GLOBO] According to Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Brundtland, the Rio 92 Conference did not improve on the 1972 conference. What is your assessment?

[Strong] Perhaps we did not achieve any progress regarding wars. With so many international conflicts, there were no regulations issued against countries that use the environment as a weapon. It is necessary to assess the need to keep war materiel in times of peace. Despite all this, however, we cannot deny the positive value of what has been decided here. It was not our intention to save the world in one single conference.

[O GLOBO] The United States did not sign the Biodiversity Treaty, safeguarding its national interests. To what point did this decision undermine the Rio 92 Conference?

[Strong] It did not influence the 153 countries that signed the Biodiversity Treaty, but it certainly curtailed its effectiveness. This meeting, however, is only the beginning. I believe that it will not be long before the United States approves this treaty. It is impossible for the United States or indeed for my country, Canada, to continue the same patterns of life and consumption. These patterns are not sustainable any longer. If we continue this way neither the "status quo" nor the economy will survive. We are on a path that will lead us to tragedy.

[O GLOBO] What new resources were announced for developing countries?

[Strong] I believe it was between $6 and $7 billion per year. It may even be $10 billion if some countries change their general promises into specific proposals. I hope part of this money will be released before September.

[O GLOBO] Are there any plans to hold another summit?

[Strong] We certainly cannot wait another 20 years to hold another summit but I do not know when it will be held. A summit like this cannot be held every day.

Summits help to promote political will. I believe a follow-up meeting may be held within three years. But the only certain thing about the next conference is that I will not be heading it.

Negotiations Fail on More Funds for Environment

PY1706001692 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 14 Jun 92 Rio-92 Section p 1

[By Deborah Berlinck]

[Text] Compromise negotiations for wealthy countries to increase their financial contribution until the year 2000 to help poor countries develop have failed. The agreement achieved at 1630 [2030 GMT] yesterday only states that the increase in aid must begin "as soon as possible." The paragraph that provided for an "increase for the Earth"—$5 billion solely for environmental projects—also has been weakened. The developed countries only promised to give "special consideration to the proposal." With the rejection of the possibility to release new and additional money, the future of the agreements signed during the conference becomes a mystery. Yesterday, 20 representatives of several countries that signed the agreement submitted the text to the consideration of the official delegations.

The main point of disagreement was the deadline of the year 2000 for the rich countries to reach the goal established by the United Nations 22 years ago—and never fulfilled by most of them—of channeling 0.7 percent of their GDP [gross domestic product] to official aid for poorer countries' development. Among the countries opposed to this was Japan, which today disburses $9.054 billion (0.31 percent of its GDP) for that aid.

The United States, whose contribution is today the lowest among the industrial powers—0.19 percent of GDP, or $10.1 billion—was not opposed to anything because it finally was excluded from that commitment. A paragraph prepared specifically to accommodate the U.S. position states that wealthy countries reaffirm the commitment of reaching the goal of 0.7 percent of the GDP in official aid. Since they never had accepted that agreement before, the United States does not have anything to reaffirm. The only ones who supported that deadline were those that already have reached or even surpassed that objective: all Nordic countries and the Netherlands.

The agreement signed yesterday also eliminated the paragraph establishing an increase in funds for the IDA, the International Development Association of the World Bank, responsible for most resources earmarked for countries with per capita incomes lower than $400. The African countries were the ones most adversely affected by this. The agreement's final text establishes that developed countries will only "give special consideration to the proposal" prepared by William Preston, president of the IBRD [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development], or give an "increase for the Earth"—$5 billion more solely for projects to protect the environment.

The developing countries were trying hard to convince wealthy countries to assume the commitment of reaching the goal of 0.7 percent by the year 2000, but what was considered by the poor nations as a possible victory at the Rio-92 Conference will not benefit Brazil at all. For having a per capita income of $2,500, the country for decades has not been qualified to receive donations that wealthy countries send to the poorer ones as official development assistance (ODA). According to a Brazilian negotiator, Brazil became aligned with developing countries only as a gesture of solidarity.

Region Reacts 'Cautiously' to U.S. Decision

PA1606234392 Paris AFP in Spanish 2106 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] San Jose, Jun 16 (AFP)—On 16 June, the Central American governments, with the exception of Guatemala, reacted "cautiously" to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling authorizing the abduction of alleged criminals in foreign countries so they can be tried in U.S. territory.

Until the afternoon of 16 June, only Guatemalan Foreign Minister Gonzalo Menendez had taken a clear position on the issue: He strongly condemned the U.S. decision.

Costa Rican Justice Minister Elizabeth Odio stated that the U.S. ruling is "a total blunder that violates the principles of international law."

"We will never accept the violation of our legal order," Minister Odio asserted. She also said she hoped the Bush administration would not kidnap people in foreign countries.

Odio stated, however, that the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry had to give the country's official position on the matter. Foreign Minister Bernd Neihaus and President Rafael Calderon are currently in Paraguay.

The Governments of Panama, Honduras, and El Salvador remained silent or said they had to study the matter thoroughly because "it was very sensitive."

According to the U.S. Supreme Court decision, U.S. authorities can carry out abductions in any country in the world and violate international laws to seize alleged terrorists or drug traffickers.

Some of the region's foreign ministers, such as Manuel Pacas of El Salvador and Ernesto Leal of Nicaragua, avoided reporters' questions on the U.S. decision. The Honduran foreign minister remained silent.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Julio Linares told the media that the U.S. decision "had positive and negative aspects, so I would not want to make a definite statement on the matter until I have studied the decision."

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Gonzalo Menendez reacted angrily to the announcement, saying that the arrest of presumed criminals abroad would constitute "intervention in the internal affairs of other nations and an attack against the sovereignty of their peoples."

Menendez said that on 16 June the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry began contacting other Latin American governments seeking a consensus to "reject" the U.S. decision and "eventually issue a statement reflecting the joint position of the countries opposed to the measure."

Costa Rican Justice Minister Elizabeth Odio also called for a regional position on the U.S. Court's decision, which has prompted many reactions in Latin America.

Relations between Washington and Guatemala, which for more than 10 years were distant due to constant human rights violations in the latter country, improved this year after Jorge Serrano's government authorized the extradition of three Guatemalans accused of participating in drug trafficking.

"We are against foreign forces coming to our territory to make arrests, which is the exclusive authority of the Guatemalan courts," Menendez stressed.

Meanwhile, opposition groups in El Salvador and Nicaragua condemned the U.S. decision.

The Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrillas said the implementation of such a measure "would break international order."

Christian Democratic leader Gerardo Lechevalier made an even harsher remark, saying that the decision "is undoubtedly a demonstration of imperial arrogance."

In Costa Rica, former Foreign Minister Fernando Volio, a Social Democrat, said "nothing justifies yielding sovereignty" to apply the law.

Minister Says Peru To Remain in Andean Pact

PA1606202192 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Before boarding the plane that would bring him to Ecuador, Jorge Camet, Peruvian minister of industry, tourism, commerce, and integration, said his country will not withdraw from the Andean Pact. However, Camet said they were going to Quito with this in mind and that they expect clean rules of the game for free trade. Upon arrival in Quito, the Peruvian minister reiterated his statement:

[Begin recording] [Camet] The important thing is that we meet with the commission [Andean Commission of the Cartagena Agreement] and evaluate various aspects of the Andean Group. We must review the implementation of the Barahona Act, problems encountered in its implementation, and find out what is causing the delays and impasse. This should result in clear, open, and honest discussions [words indistinct] following a political decision adopted by the presidents in December 1991.

[Unidentified reporter] Then you are not denying the rumor.

[Camet] There are many rumors. To deny rumors or believe rumors can create problems for the dialogue. I believe it is much more important that we sit down and talk first and learn what is going on. [end recording]

Cuba

Castro Meets With Brazilian Intellectuals in Rio

FL1606134492 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] President Fidel Castro returned to Havana last night from Rio de Janeiro, where he participated in the UN Conference on Environment and Development [UNCED]. Fidel was met at Jose Marti International Airport by Army General Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and other leaders of the Communist Party of Cuba and the Cuban Government.

The day before, the Cuban president met with a group of Brazilian intellectuals and artists in Rio, at the studio of architect Oscar Niemeyer. Also present were senator, anthropologist, and author Darcy Ribeiro; television scriptwriter (Dias Gomes); filmmaker (Hugo Carvana); and writers Frei Betto, Leonardo Boff, and (Eric Napumosenho).

(Irace Modo Castro), an educator who has headed an association of friendship with Cuba for many years, was also present, and said she had been very happy to hear Fidel confirm that everything is going to turn out all right and that Cuba will never give up defending socialism.

Commentary Discusses U.S. 'Military Plans'

FL1606162992 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Commentary by Lazaro Barredo: "Evasive U.S. Responses to Cuba's Denunciations: Once a Confession Is Made, No Further Evidence Is Needed" on the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] A little more than a month has passed since GRANMA published the editorial in which it asked what the United States is preparing for at the Guantanamo Naval Base. No one in the United States has said whether the arguments and facts reported by GRANMA on the drafting of military plans against Cuba are true or not. According to press sources, those U.S. officials questioned considered Cuban concerns meaningless, since according to them, President George Bush has repeatedly stated that the United States does not have any such intentions.

It is true that in his public appearances, President Bush has rejected the possibility of using force against Cuba. But how can this matter be understood, and how are we to interpret his statements, when the institutions and bodies designing these military contingency plans against Cuba are directly subordinate to him and systematically report back to him?

For us, these verbal assurances cannot be enough when actions say otherwise, and far from being reassuring, make things worse. How would the U.S. public react if the situation were reversed? What would the U.S. Government do if a foreign power permanently prowled in waters close to their territory with battle groups of aircraft carriers, dozens of ships, thousands of perimeter flights close to their major cities, and hundreds of reconnaissance flights? It is not possible to believe this expression of good faith, and it would be fatally naive to accept the views of those who consider Cuba's concerns an exaggeration.

It is true that within the U.S. Government there is a policy invisible to the scrutiny of public opinion and other political forces, and that the nature of certain facts is hidden by secrecy. I am going to illustrate this with a recent example. The influential paper THE MIAMI HERALD published an extensive article last month as a reply to the GRANMA editorial. In that article, an official of the U.S. Congress Armed Services Committee was asked if the statements I commented on during this program—concerning testimony by several high-ranking U.S. military chiefs during a hearing by that committee—were true. They had described Cuba as a worrisome potential enemy and a serious threat to U.S. national security.

The official confirmed that in fact those high-ranking military chiefs had testified before that committee, but to limit access to their revealing testimony— which illustrates the seriousness of the Bush administration's aggressive intentions—it was said that the official transcript of their statements would not be available to the public for six months. This barely credible bureaucratic response makes me wonder: How can it take six months to transcribe something that in Havana was transcribed and translated into Spanish some time ago?

That is the free flow of information? That is objectivity? Are they not trying to conceal from public opinion such a delicate matter, the confirmation that there is a denial of the truth about this problem and that there is abnormal behavior in U.S. politics in which the military is playing a more and more hegemonic role? This was made clear by an AP report in which State Department officials stated that it is possible that Cuba's concerns are understandable, but the Defense Department and the Pentagon have refused to allow U.S. diplomats to assure the Cubans that the United States does not have hostile intentions.

If this does not have Bush's approval, how could the State Department, the setter of U.S. foreign policy, make itself subordinate to the Pentagon in this way? In THE MIAMI HERALD article, several so-called experts in Cuban affairs presented arguments impossible to overlook because of what was said and by whom. One is Mr. Enrique Baloyra, a professor of political science at the School of International Studies at the University of Miami. Our attention is drawn to Mr. Baloyra's statement that the Cubans should not be concerned about those maneuvers, and at the same time, that he is participating in a Central Intelligence Agency project. And please, this is not gratuitous. According to him, and

I quote: There are people in Havana who are convinced that the intervention plans are ready. They—he is referring to us—do not want to understand that in the United States there are even exercises for going to Mars.

It is understandable that Mr. Baloyra, who has lost that feeling of love which can be felt only when one has a homeland, would act like a humanoid robot unable to understand that if Martians existed, they too would prepare for the danger of a possible invasion by the United States. The other expert is Juan Clark, a professor of sociology, who increasingly disqualifies himself by his academicism. Clark has stated, and I quote: The denunciations by the Cuban Government could simply be a way of fanning their traditional war hysteria against the United States. End quote.

For Clark, Cuba's war hysteria is the execution of its philosophy of the entire people's war, but he seems unable to understand that the incontrovertible reality of the matter is that we Cubans, to our regret, have been forced to undertake great expense to defend ourselves. For the United States, military spending is advantageous because of the high level of development of their military-industrial complex, which represents hundreds of thousands of jobs and serves as justification for shady uses of the budget. But for Cuba, military spending is in contradiction to our goals, if we take into account our economic capabilities and our effort towards social justice, as we still have to solve many of society's problems.

Cuba does not spend these amounts on a whim or out of a desire for war. In the same MIAMI HERALD article, along with the statements by Baloyra and Clark, a Pentagon official who asked to remain anonymous said that the military exercises in Guantanamo and the contingency plans for Cuba are not exceptional. This official was the most truthful of all who commented on the matter. He stated the truth, purely and simply. The habitual practice of U.S. policy against Cuba has always been just that. The only exception during these 30 years have been a few timid, half-hearted attempts by the Jimmy Carter administration to bring about nearly normal relations, but these attempts were aborted almost immediately.

If Cuba had no need for concern, and had been given all those assurances that have been mentioned, why did the State Department officials who were consulted about the facts set forth in the GRANMA editorial neither confirm nor deny the Cuban figures? It could not be otherwise. Our denunciation was so conclusive that it could not be denied. Thus, their silence is understandable. It is like that saying: Once a confession is made, no further evidence is needed.

Further on Status of Sugarcane Planting Plan

FL1606233592 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 2220 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] With 15 days remaining to the end of the spring sugarcane planting season, there are provinces that still have not planted even 50 percent of their plan. Among those provinces that are behind are Villa Clara, with just 39 percent of the 1,700 caballerias planted; Las Tunas with 38 percent; Guantanamo with 30 percent; Sancti Spiritus with 16 percent of the more than 1,000 caballerias that need to be planted.

Among the provinces that have better results are Santiago de Cuba, Granma, and Cienfuegos with more than 80 percent of their programs completed. Nationwide, there are more than 6,800 caballerias planted of the 13,500 caballerias that must be planted. This means that a greater effort must be made in order to fulfill this plan.

Rice Harvest, Problem-Solving Discussed

FL1606164892 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Report by Jose Cabrera Peinado]

[Text] A little over 2,000 caballerias of rice have already been planted in Pinar del Rio Province so far this year, and land is being prepared for completion of the 2,500 caballerias scheduled to be planted in what is left of June. The Montoto, Caribe, and Agricola Vuelta Abajo Farms were the first three in the country to finish their planting, and the conditions to begin harvesting this grain on 4 July are being created in all the farms of the complex in this province.

The harvest is to begin on an initial 470 caballerias that correspond to the cold weather planting. Included in these figures are approximately 1,300 hectares of flat terraces that can produce more than one harvest, in addition to another 612 hectares that do not appear in the plan but that were finished in record time by the construction brigades on the basis of a commitment they made to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. These 612 hectares will also be in production this year.

For the third consecutive year, the phase of repairs to the combines—this is something very important—to the harvesting combines is being supported in this province by dozens of organizations, enterprises, and workshops that have taken it upon themselves to create and manufacture a high percentage of necessary parts. In addition, there is something new: This time this phase is also receiving cooperation from equipment and specialists of the Eastern Army, which puts into concrete form Army General Raul Castro's [word indistinct] instruction regarding the priority the Revolutionary Armed Forces give the food program.

Thus that business of the principle of marching in step [marcha acompanada] is in this way truly being put into practice here in Pinar del Rio Province, a principle which has been being put into practice for several years now, almost since 1987. An organization's problem is truly seen as everyone's problem. This has been clearly demonstrated in the construction of the animal-drawn vehicles being built to transport passengers. As soon as any difficulty whatsoever arises in the province, the

problem is immediately analyzed jointly, and whoever finds the solution applies it quickly.

Equipment To Improve Guantanamo Radio Signals

FL1606145092 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the beginning of radio in Cuba, transmitters and translators will be installed in Guantanamo soon. This equipment will bring about a substantial improvement in radio signals in the area and will contribute to reducing the zones of silence in that eastern province. The introduction of these technologies will expand the radio spectrum in Guantanamo Province considerably, since 75 percent of the province consists of mountainous areas, and it has been calculated that 20 percent of the province does not receive any radio signals. Also, communications technicians will place another 1-kilowatt transmitter in Maisi to extend Radio Rebelde's signal. They will also modify the frequencies of Radio Reloj and Radio Progreso in Baracoa Municipality.

Haiti

Senators Declare Senate Vote 'Null and Void'

FL1606181692 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Seven senators have signed a letter to Senate President Dejean Belizaire, citing the initiation of democracy on 7 February 1986, and denouncing irregularities they claim were committed in the Senate since the Villa d'Accueil meetings. They ask the Senate president to take steps to correct the situation, arguing that since the crisis was triggered by the 30 September 1991 coup, and the national and international communities have been called on to play a role in settling the matter so constitutional order resulting from the 16 December 1990 elections can be restored, the parliament, influenced by a group of lawmakers, has misunderstood its mission at this historical juncture. Although all efforts have been made, the great democratic principles requiring separation of powers have been disdained. [passage omitted]

The senators claim that four ministerial portfolios have been entrusted to brothers of parliamentarians, including Diderot Belizaire. They call this a systematic, indecent violation of the Constitution, of the internal rules of the Senate, and of parliamentary practices generally admitted in all countries. The senators signing the letter protest this unconstitutional procedure initiated since the Villa d'Accueil Agreement that has resulted in the so-called vote of confidence irregularly granted to Marc Bazin during the session held on 13 June in the Senate of the Republic. [passage omitted]

The senators who wrote this letter say history will remember that 16 senators were present in the Senate on that day, and that Senator Clark Parent left the room, leaving only 15. They recall that as the president did not have the right to vote, there remained 14 senators who could vote. There was one abstention by Sen. Opont, one vote against by Sen. Rony Mondestin, and 12 votes for Bazin by Senators Eddy Dupiton, Julio Larosiliere, Amos Andre, Ebrane Cadet, Judnel Jean, Franher Jean-Baptiste, Smith Metellus, Serge Joseph, Bernard Sansaricq, Luc Fleurinord, Franck Leonard, and Yvon Gislain. [passage omitted]

The senators further denounce another alleged violation to the Constitution: Article 133 provides for a two-headed executive; that is, a president and a prime minister. The law on the ratification of the tripartite agreement, however, has created a state without a president, which may give rise to major problems in the country. [passage omitted] They ask the president to regain his control. They believe it is time to set things right to prevent the parliament and the nation from falling into a threatening catastrophe. They further declare the 13 June Senate vote null and void.

The senators signing this letter are: Robert Opont of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party; Rony Mondestin of the National Reconstruction Movement; Wesner Emmanuel, Eudrice Raymond, Turneb Delpe, Jean-Robert Martinez, Firmin Jean-Louis, Clark Parent, Herard Pauyo, and Art Austinof, all of the National Front for Change and Democracy. Although the names of 10 senators appear in this letter, only seven appear to be authentic signatures.

Sen. Gislain 'Expelled' From FNCD for Vote

FL1606171592 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] The National Front for Change and Democracy Parliamentary Bloc [BPFNCD] has announced in a letter to Senator Yvon Gislain that he has been expelled from the front. This decision followed Sen. Gislain's vote for Marc Bazin during the 13 June Senate session. Yesterday morning, the secretary general of the National Congress of Democratic Movements [CONACOM], Victor Benoit, condemned Gislain's attitude which he said does not comply with the orders of the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD] to its members.

The FNCD had attempted to get an explanations from Sen. Gislain yesterday, during a meeting it was holding on the matter. As the senator did not show up at that meeting, the FNCD coordinating office decided to expel him, via letter signed by a spokesman for the front, Sen. Turneb Delpe.

Sen. Gislain is the third senator that the FNCD has expelled from the front since the beginning of the country's crisis. The first two senators, who left the BP-FNCD, are Sen. Thomas Eddy Dupiton and Sen. Bernard Sansaricq.

Clarifies Position

FL1606223392 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Senator Yvon Gislain, has clarified the statement made by Professor Victor Benoit on 15 June. The senator said that it was not in the name of the National Front for Change and Democracy, FNCD, that he voted in favor of Marc Bazin during the Senate session which was held on 13 June. Sen. Gislain pointed out that he voted in the prime minister's favor because the prime minister provided him with some guarantees.

He is, however, ready to resign as a senator if Bazin does not respect his promises. Sen. Gislain believes that the way he acted was normal because he thinks the country is in danger.

[Begin Gislain recording] In life, when one is a responsible person, a senator of the Republic, and if one feels that the nation's ship is sinking, one must take a stand. I took this position for that reason because Bazin gave me guarantees that he was going to negotiate with President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. What I need and what I have been fighting for since 2 October is the return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and the application of Article 148. I took him at his word and I gave him my vote because I want Jean-Bertrand Aristide to return.

However, my position did not involve the FNCD at all. It was my own initiative. I took a position and I assert before the nation that if Bazin should deceive me, and President Jean-Bertrand Aristide does not return to Haiti as president, I will resign. Upon my resignation, I will tell the nation the reasons for it: I took a position different from the FNCD because I wanted Jean-Bertrand Aristide to return to power and I am contesting. It is like in computer science, one opens a door when one cannot access a code. I opened a door and voted for Bazin because he gave me the guarantees that he would let the students go back to school. But if he does not secure the return of Aristide, I am taking it upon myself, today 15 June, I am ready to resign as senator and I would leave the country because I would not be worthy of being a Haitian. [end recording]

Those were statements made by Sen. Gislain on 15 June. Regarding the threats about his possible expulsion from the FNCD, Sen. Gislain said that whether he is part of the Front or not, he will always maintain his position which is to fight for the respect of the country's Constitution. He admits that the FNCD has made many mistakes in the political arena. [passage omitted]

As the Senate president stated in his opening address of the second parliamentary session, Sen. Gislain noted the great division within the parliament. However, according to him, the masses should accept the division as it is, because this situation reflects the image of Haitian society. According to Sen. Gislain, if there was not division in the parliament, dictatorship would have taken over. He also added that the division within the parliament shows that we are on the way to democracy. [passage omitted]

Mayor Invites Parliamentarians to FNCD Meeting

FL1606185892 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Evans Paul, one of the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD] spokesmen, told National Front for Change and Democracy Parliamentary Bloc [BPFNCD] parliamentarians who do not respect the orders of the front that their role is to defend the country. Evans Paul says that the FNCD is not fighting for an individual, but respect for the Constituion, according to a statement he made on radio this morning.

[Begin Paul recording] I am calling on all parliamentarians of the 45th legislature, especially those who were elected under the banner of the FNCD first-rate rooster, but who do not respect the the people's position, such as Roosevelt Ovide, deputy for the second district of Port-au-Prince; Lones Joseph, deputy of Delmas; Jean-Jacques Seignon, Croix-des-Bouquets; Joseph Elisca Bommier, second district of Jacmel; Maxo Lamarre, Thiotte; Israel Apollon, Savanette; Olipcial Regis, Anse d'Hainault; in addition to all those who formed an alliance with the BP-FNCD, such as Millevoye Sanon, the Carrefour-Feuilles deputy, to remind you that your role is to defend the nation, that the tripartite agreement and all matters resulting from it will further complicate the crisis.

I formally acknowledge the resolution which was voted and which provided that all elected representatives be reinstated in their posts, that freedom of the press, freedom of expression, and freedom to meet be guaranteed. However, we all know that when you wear clothes inside out, there are two solutions: you have to take them off and put them back on, or you have to tear them. This is why parliament has the mission of setting everything right. The FNCD is not fighting against individuals, but it is fighting for a principle: Respect for the people's demands, respect for the Constitution.

I urge you not to continue involvement in the illegal steps of the so-called consensus government so the parliament does not continue to lose its prestige, so in the future your children do not regret that you are their fathers. Please come and discuss with the FNCD a true negotiated solution through the Washington Agreement and along with the president who the people elected. [end recording]

Aristide Calls on Nation To Resist Government

FL1506200092 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Exiled Haitian leader, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, addressed the Earth Summit in Rio on Saturday [13

June]. He called on Haitians to keep resisting the military government in his home country, saying he was confident that a petroleum embargo would help bring about a return to democracy. Mr. Aristide indicated that he did not think it would take a multi-national military force as was suggested earlier by the OAS to restore democratic rule. The deposed leader has been living in exile in Caracas, Venezuela since last 30 September.

All Political Prisoners Released in Les Cayes

FL1506233892 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Report by correspondent Duperval Frank—recorded in Creole]

[Text] In Les Cayes, all the people arrested in the past few days have been released. Our correspondent Duperval Frank has details:

[Duperval] We have learned from police sources that there is no one in the Les Cayes prison for political reasons. Other people, such as teachers, who were in hiding, have resumed their usual activities. The ratification of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy, MIDH, leader, Marc Louis Bazin, is the main topic of conversation among many people in the South Metropole.

Furthermore, contrary to the Ministry of National Education communique, second semester exams started over the weekend at the Lycee Philippe Guerrier in Les Cayes. To quote some of the students, it is a test which the majority of the students face with great uncertainty, since they have not learned well the material they had time to study in the program. However, the 11th and 12th graders continue to attend their classes as normal. Also, the Edgar Nere Numa College, which suspended classes on 1 June after the police raided the school, resumed its activities with a reduced attendance. Meanwhile, the director of this school, Professor Paul Yves Joseph is still in hiding.

Judicial Cooperation Programs With U.S. Revised

PA1706131492 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1003 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Following the controversial ruling issued by the U.S. Supreme Court allowing the kidnapping of alleged criminals in other countries, Mexico and the United States have begun to revise their judicial cooperation programs against drug trafficking programs. During the meetings the two countries will revise the extradition treaty annulled by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that denied the extradition of a Mexican kidnapped and tried for the murder of a U.S. DEA agent.

In response to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling issued on 15 June, Mexico suspended the activities of the DEA in Mexico and described the kidnapping of Mexican citizens as "a criminal act."

On the evening of 16 June the Mexican Foreign Secretariat decided to resume, temporarily, the battle against drug trafficking program established between the two governments so as "not to give the wrong signals to drug traffickers." The Mexican Government did not provide more details.

The Foreign Secretariat reiterated Mexico's willingness to find mechanisms that will strengthen and make more efficient the cooperation between the two governments in the battle against drug trafficking based on the strict respect for Mexico's sovereignty and international laws.

U.S. Ambassador John Dimitri Negroponte, Mexican Deputy Foreign Secretary Andres Rosenthal, as well as officials representing the Mexican Attorney General's Office, participated in the first round of talks held on 16 June.

According to Ambassador Negroponte, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker called Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana Morales on the evening of 15 June after learning of Mexico's reaction to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

After meeting with the Mexican deputy foreign minister, the U.S. diplomat said that Washington maintains "good" relations with Mexico despite "some problems," which can be solved. Negroponte's statement was made following a generalized international condemnation of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling was condemned by all the political parties in the Mexican Senate and Chamber of Deputies on the grounds that it "violates all the principles of international law" by attempting to apply U.S. laws beyond U.S. borders.

Reaction was similar in most of the countries in America and Europe. There were even urgent governmental consultations, like Costa Rica, where the Council of Ministers met to discuss the ruling.

Governments, organizations, lawyers, diplomats, politicians, and human rights activities in Central America described the ruling as arrogant and a violation.

"Hondurans are protected by our laws, and for any of them to be kidnapped would be an attack on the country," Honduran Government Minister Francisco Cardona Arguelles said.

In Nicaragua, former Sandinist President Daniel Ortega said the ruling falls within the new world order imposed by the United States and represents a "threat because it seeks to legitimize a policy of international kidnapping."

Costa Rican Justice Minister Elizabeth Odio said that if the United States violates Costa Rica's legal system, it would make the state of law useless.

Costa Rican Government Minister Luis Fishman remarked: "It would seem that the U.S. court is authorizing interference by the U.S. Government in other countries and is violating the principle of sovereignty and international law. That is a legal monstrosity."

Salvadoran Foreign Minister Manuel Pacas also noted that his country's laws "state that no Salvadoran who commits a crime can be extradited; he must be judged by local authorities."

Salvador Samayoa, leader of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, which was recently incorporated into the Salvadoran political process, told NOTIMEX that "the U.S. court has no authority to make such decisions."

"They cannot kidnap people in other countries. Such a unilateral decision is illegal and contrary to international law," Samayoa said.

In Guatemala, the Presidency of the Republic, the Central American Parliament, and the Congress condemned the resolution and rejected any U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of the nations of the hemisphere.

Guatemalan Vice President Gustavo Espina Salguero said: "We cannot accept this stance because it entails intervention in other countries and violates the national sovereignty of other countries."

"We refuse to let foreign forces come here to capture criminals, a function which is the responsibility of Guatemalan authorities," Guatemalan Foreign Minister Gonzalo Menendez Park said.

Menendez Park also said he will consult with his colleagues in the region to establish a joint stance. Central American Parliament President Roberto Carpio Nicolle described the resolution as "inconsistent and rude."

"It is an uncivilized action," said Alfredo Balsells Tojo, magistrate of the Guatemalan Supreme Court of Justice.

Colombian Congress President Carlos Espinosa said: "The decision is intolerable and represents a threat

against the world." The Colombian Congress described the resolution as "an outrage against international law."

In a strong communique, the Colombian Foreign and Justice Ministries stated that the relations between Colombia and the United States will deteriorate severely when Colombian nationals are kidnapped.

Last year, Colombian drug trafficking ringleaders sought refuge in amnesty decrees to avoid extradition to the United States. According to the Foreign Ministry, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision establishes "a grave precedent," which disrupts international law and order.

Canadian analysts and jurists described the decision as "imperialist and interventionist;" however, Richard Clair, from the Justice Ministry, trusts that it will not affect Canada because of its "friendly" extradition treaty with the United States.

The Canadian Government had jointly sponsored the appeal presented by the Mexican doctor's defense for him to be extradited to Mexico.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez described as "pretencious attitude that transcends borders" the U.S. decision to kidnap suspects in third countries so they stand trial in the United States.

"A country's actions cannot be exerted outside its own territory, and it is impossible to accept a country's judicial or police jurisdiction over the territory of other countries," Perez added.

The Supreme Court's decision converts Washington into "a self-designated world policeman," states a communique issued by opposition party COPEI [Social Christian Party], Venezuela's second electoral force.

In Spain, the Foreign Ministry stated in a brief communique that the ruling is a "dangerous precedent" that could affect international relations on judicial matters.

Meanwhile, Washington only gave assurances that it has the "greatest respect" for Mexico's sovereignty.

"We intend to work very carefully with the Mexican Government to clear any concern or perception to the contrary," the State Department said in an apparent effort to silence the protests.

El Salvador

Cristiani Discusses Peace Process, Other Issues

PA1706004292 San Salvador Radio El Salvador Network in Spanish 1630 GMT 15 Jun 92

[News conference by President Alfredo Cristiani at the Presidential House in San Salvador on 15 June with unidentified moderator and local reporters—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Cristiani] I would briefly like to review the progress made in the peace process. Today we have good news: During the bilateral meetings held with ONUSAL [UN Observers for El Salvador], we reached different formulas to resume the peace process and to draft a schedule for the implementation of the agreements. As we have said before, we intend to keep the 31 October deadline. In that regard, we are in a position to announce that within the next 10 days, we will finish concentrating the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] foces and the Salvadoran Armed Forces, which was practically done, but there were a few additional areas that caused some problems. Those problems have been resolved, and we hope to have everything ready by 25 June. We hope the FMLN members may return by 30 June. The first 20 percent of them will be returning on that date. The FMLN should, therefore, be fulfilling the schedule before the 31 October deadline.

We have also found solutions to other issues that were causing problems, perhaps because of misinterpretations. In late June we will follow up on this problem, and the government will submit bills to the Legislative Assembly repealing laws regulating the former public security corps. We have rescheduled the beginning of the courses taught by the Public Security Academy. Basic courses will begin in early July, and more advanced courses will begin in September. During the next 30 days we will conclude the study of the programs for the return of the FMLN members. We have already drafted short-term programs to avoid problems with the first 20 percent of the FMLN members, who should be returning by 30 June. We have had some delays, but we have been able to reschedule the implementation of the agreement so the entire process can be successfully completed by 31 October.

We have always said that the peace process will face some obstacles. It is a difficult process. Its schedule must be seen as an ideal. Some points of the Chapultepec Agreements even mention the dates as being ideal dates. In that context, however, the important thing is to have the proper communication channels open so the problems can be resolved. That does not mean we have resolved all the problems, but we hope to eventually solve them. The important thing is that the process is progressing. There have been no cease-fire violations, which is very important. We feel optimistic about the successful conclusion of the process. We will continue to work on other areas, such as providing facilities for the FMLN so it can become a legal political party. We will seek to return legal status to all municipalities in the country. I am talking about mayors who have been in exile and so forth. We hope to resolve all of those problems. As for the land issue, in the next few days we will begin to verify the inventory submitted by the FMLN to the agrarian subcommittee of Copaz [National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace]. We will also begin the verification process in the area of land seizures. That was a very serious and delicate matter earlier this year. However, we can find a solution, always bearing in mind the right of ownership as a fundamental element in finding solutions to those problems. It should bring more tranquillity to the agricultural sector.

This is in accordance with what apparently is the normalization of the regime of [word indistinct] which could start once the planting cycle begins. This represents another positive factor. In the future, the most important thing will be to keep finding these types of solutions that help out the peace process so that it may benefit all of the Salvadoran people. The Salvadoran people want the peace process to come to an end soon and yield positive results. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Mr. Marco Antonio Gonzalez of EL DIARIO DE HOY.

[Gonzalez] Mr. President, I would like to know if the land inventory has been completed? According to the Central Bank president, this was an obstacle that had to be overcome prior to granting agricultural loans. Will the FMLN be allowed to register as a political party even though we know it still has armed groups? Lastly, do you predict a reduction in power rationing once the [words indistinct] is normalized?

[Cristiani] Regarding your question on the FMLN, I believe the legalization of the FMLN depends solely on the Central Electoral Council [CCE]. In the next few days we will be promoting certain changes to the electoral law that will make it easier for the FMLN to become a political party. However, whether it will be allowed to register will have to be decided by the CCE, which will do so in the manner it considers to be the most appropriate. The Legislative Assembly does not have the authority to [word indistinct] a political party. It can amend laws to speed up the process, but in the end the decision is up to the CCE. The CCE will have to take into consideration the country's laws and constitution and solve the problem.

Regarding the rationing, rains are falling and the situation is returning to normal. At 0000 on 15 June the water level at the Cerron Grande Dam was [word indistinct] 161 centimeters. If my mathematics do not fail me, that is 1 meter and 30 cm above the water level reported on 8 June. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] [Words indistinct]

[Unidentified reporter] What about the land inventory [words indistinct]?

[Cristiani] Oh, yes. The FMLN presented a new inventory this week after reviewing the first one. You may recall that the first inventory presented by the FMLN included approximately 12,500 properties. This was unacceptable because it did not reflect the spirit of the agreements. The figure has been progressively reduced according to the guidelines established by the special agrarian subcommission. The FMLN has implemented some of its own views. The most recent inventory was presented last week and includes approximately 4,600 properties. In other words, there has been a substantial reduction in the properties listed in the first inventory. We think that the best thing to do now is to.... [pauses] Even though the inventory does not necessarily reflect the spirit of the agreements, it is preferable to have the agrarian subcommission make the final purge—if we may call it that—during the verification process. The subcommission will see which properties fall within the spirit of the agreements and which ones do not. It has already been working on this.

As far as we are concerned, we have designed the verification plan to offer our support to the agrarian subcommission. We are now looking for the resources, both material and financial, to carry out the process in the shortest time possible because the solution of this problem will give stability to the agricultural sector. Many of the guidelines to start the verification process have been discussed and they will be quickly implemented to verify on the spot all the land seizure reports received so far; there have been about 120. These will be given special treatment because the owners have filed complaints. A much quicker verification will be carried out to solve these cases before reviewing the cases listed on the inventory. We hope the verification process concludes according to schedule—15 weeks—so the issues can be settled. The land seizure cases will take less time but the others will take about 15 weeks.

[Moderator] Mr. President, we invite Miss Norma Jimenez, of TCS Television.

[Jimenez] Good morning, Mr. President. You said the FMLN is scheduled to demobilize 20 percent of its forces on 30 June. I would like to know if the timetable's renegotiation includes new disarmament deadlines.

[Cristiani] No, the disarmament operates as follows. The accords say that all the weapons must be gathered within the security zones supervised by ONUSAL. There are two types of weapons. There are personal weapons—such as rifles or pistols, which the fighter carries within the security zones—and there are the other types of weapons, which are under joint ONUSAL-FMLN control and are locked up in containers. In this phase of the demobilization, the fighters turn in their personal weapons, which are added to the inventory of weapons within the FMLN's security areas. The destruction.... [pauses] According to the peace accords, the actual disarmament of the FMLN—where the peace process concludes and FMLN's structure ends—occurs in the second half of October. This is when all the weapons will be destroyed. The only thing is that persons who leave the FMLN security areas must first turn in their personal weapons.

[Moderator] Guillermo Valencia, from El Noticiero.

[Valencia] Mr. President, I have two questions. I understand that in the next few hours, a delegation composed of members of the FMLN, the government, and political parties will be leaving for Washington. I would like to know what this mission's objective is and whether it has anything to do with the aid that could be frozen.

My second question concerns Colonel Sigfrido Ochoa Perez, president of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, whose health seems to have deteriorated in recent days.

[Cristiani] Regarding your first question, this is not a delegation. The visit is a result of an invitation issued by a committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. This committee has organized a meeting to hear expositions on the problems of El Salvador. The committee issued individual invitations. I understand it invited Dr. Ruben Zamora, of Democratic Convergence; Joaquin Villalobos, of the FMLN; and Ernesto Altschul, of the government. The invitation is only for participation in what the United States calls a hearing [last word in English]. The committee of Mr. Torricelli is the one that organized this meeting to be informed about El Salvador's situation. I understand the committee will be studying other cases. We are just one of those cases. These Salvadorans I mentioned are going to participate in that committee meeting. Questions will be asked and there will be efforts to clear up aspects related, most of them I believe, to the peace process going on in our country.

Regarding Col. Ochoa, he may have a detached retina, and his doctor has recommended that he travel abroad to try to resolve this problem. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Mr. President, Raul Monge, from Radio Centro.

[Monge] Mr. President, forgive me for stepping somewhat out of the pattern of this news conference, but I am interested in your opinion on something. Political experts say that right now it is dangerous to [word indistinct] Cuba where Fidel Castro has produced an opening so that foreign investors may invest on the island. What is your opinion on this? Would El Salvador be willing to invest in Cuba?

[Cristiani] As a businessman, I would never make investments in a country where there are no liberties to carry out the work that a businessman must carry out. In my opinion, such liberties do not exist in Cuba.

[Moderator] That is all, Mr. President. Thank you.

FMLN Willing To Follow Chapultpec Agreements

PA1606205092 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] is willing to comply with the Chapultpec Agreements by moving its forces to the established areas, provided the government complies and does its part.

In this manner, the FMLN has replied to President Alfredo Cristiani's remark that the FMLN will resettle by 30 June in the 15 preestablished points. The president should speak for himself, as we are the only ones who can speak for our forces, the FMLN pointed out. The FMLN also wonders what happened to the National Guard and the Treasury Police, whose garrisons still exist.

ONUSAL Supervises Defense Group Dissolution

PA1706004192 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 15 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] ONUSAL [UN Observers for El Salvador] representatives have verified the dissolution of the civilian defense groups according to the peace agreements.

Delegates of ONUSAL's military division acted as escorts and supervised the dissolution of civilian defense groups throughout the week.

The operation was overseen by General Victor Suanzes Pardo, who met with government and FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] representatives and attended their follow-up meetings.

Chiefs of ONUSAL's regional military offices met with commanders of the 3d Military Brigade in San Miguel, 2d Military Brigade in Santa Ana, 6th Military Detachment in Sonsonate, and 7th Military Detachment in Ahuachapan.

Meanwhile, military observers carried out their verification activities at the Armed Forces barracks and the FMLN gathering points.

The observers investigated a murder and the alleged kidnapping of a Christian Democratic Party deputy in San Vicente. They attended Commander German Serrano's funeral and witnessed the teachers' demonstration in Chalatenango. They also investigated the removal of Public Works Ministry machinery in Santa Rosa de Lima.

Referring to police matters, General Homero Vas Bresque, chief of ONUSAL's Police Division, met with the government and FMLN to discuss public security issues.

Approximately 105 ONUSAL police patrol members provided services at the national level. They investigated reports of attacks on the Northern Highway and in La Libertad.

Honduras

Government Rejects U.S. Supreme Court Decision

PA1606234292 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2229 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 16 Jun (NOTIMEX)—On 16 June the Honduran Government rejected the idea that the law approved by the U.S. Supreme Court on 15 June, which permits U.S. agents to kidnap persons abroad, can be applied in this country.

"The Honduran citizen is protected by this country's laws. If he were the object of a kidnapping, it would be an attack against this nation," Honduran Government Minister Francisco Cardona stated adding: "The Constitution of Tegucigalpa prohibits the extradition of its citizens to another country."

In 1988, Honduran Ramon Matta Ballesteros was kidnapped in Tegucigalpa by U.S. DEA agents and taken to the United States where he was sentenced to life. Matta, who the DEA linked to the Medellin Cartel, was accused by the U.S. Government of being involved in the killing of DEA agent Enrique Camarena Salazar in Mexico in 1985.

The government minister said that any kidnapping by the United States in Honduras "is illegal and the government could make whatever demands it deems fit."

The Honduran Supreme Court announced a plenary meeting of magistrates to discuss the U.S. Supreme Court ruling and to issue an official position. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

Minister Lacayo on Frozen U.S. Aid, Properties

PA1706030592 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Report by Maria Lourdes Osorio]

[Text] The U.S. Government promised to unfreeze its aid for Nicaragua, Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo announced upon returning from the Rio de Janeiro summit. The high-ranking government official also commented on the return of confiscated properties and a controversial amendment to Article 205 of the Penal Code.

At a news conference Lacayo reaffirmed that the Nicaraguan currency is stable and said the United States promised to unfreeze aid to Nicaragua:

[Begin Lacayo recording] The currency will not be devalued. The country has enough reserves. Moreover, I believe 150 million [currency not specified] will be arriving from the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and Japan in the next 60 days. Thus, there is no cause for alarm. Furthermore, as President

Chamorro said, U.S. aid will not continue to be frozen, because President Bush offered to intervene.

The Nicaraguan foreign minister and I met for one and a half hours with Bernard Aronson, assistant secretary for inter-American affairs. They know that Nicaragua is doing all it can to build its democracy, revive the economy, and consolidate peace, and that the objections of Senator Helms, who is the only one now opposing aid to Nicaragua, are somewhat out of place. [end recording]

Lacayo said the government will not return properties to Somozists:

[Begin Lacayo recording] Decree 3 is still in force. It was part of the government program of the National Opposition Union and remains a law of the Republic. Therefore, all properties of Somoza relatives and people close to them will remain confiscated. No one in Nicaragua wants such properties returned to those individuals, because we know the property was not purchased with their own money but with the people's money. That is why confiscations made under Decree 3 in 1979 were just and correct. Other confiscations, however, were unjust, and even the Sandinists know it. [end recording]

As for the controversial reform of Article 205 of the Penal Code, Lacayo said:

[Begin Lacayo recording] Let us wait until the Assembly approves the entire law. We are just talking about articles of that law here. Once the law is approved, we will see which parts President Chamorro will veto. She must decide that. The Assembly cries out every time there are vetoes. Nevertheless, it is obvious that homosexuals should also have rights to certain things—perhaps not to everything they want—if we wish to build a society of the 21st century, not one of the 19th century. We cannot maintain the status quo of 100 years ago. [end recording]

Guatemalan URNG Members Present Peace Proposal

PA1706042192 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Jun 92

[By Elizabeth Romero]

[Text] Rodrigo Asturias, whose nom de guerre is Commander Gaspar Ilom, of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, command has visited the country to officially present the URNG peace proposal to the international community. In Nicaragua, Asturias presented the proposal to the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, and to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry.

To promote his endeavor, Mr. Asturias met with FSLN Secretary General Commander Daniel Ortega. After the meeting, Ortega reported that the URNG peace proposal was a feasible one. Here are some of Commander Daniel Ortega's statements:

[Begin Ortega recording] We consider that this proposal falls within the scope of the agreements signed at the presidential meeting to further the attainment of peace in Central America. [Words indistinct] peace to have another option in Guatemala as occurred with the negotiating process in El Salvador. [Words indistinct] I am going to Guatemala on 22 June. I will meet with the Central American Parliament and then with the Guatemalan president. I believe this will be a good opportunity to present the FSLN position as well as to [words indistinct] at Esquipulas regarding a feasible proposal to attain peace in Guatemala. [end recording]

Daniel Ortega Comments on Aid, Cesar's Charges

PA1606223492 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 15 Jun 92 p 12

[By Henry Vargas]

[Text] Condega—On 14 June this city celebrated the 13th anniversary of its liberation from the Somozist dictatorship. It was the first city to be liberated by the Carlos Fonseca Northern Front. The ceremony was headed by former President Daniel Ortega, secretary general of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN].

Daniel Ortega said the attitude of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] and its president, Ramiro Gurdian, regarding the decision by the U.S. Government and Congress to block $100 million in aid was unacceptable.

Ortega charged: "They have remained silent." Ortega said most of the financial aid received from Europe, the World Bank, and the IMF has benefited the COSEP people for economic rather than political reasons.

Daniel Ortega also mentioned Virgilio Godoy, who on 13 June visited Jinotega and said the aid the country is receiving is going to the Sandinists. The president of the National Assembly, Alfredo Cesar, has made similar charges in the United States.

"Those charges are false. They are not true," Daniel affirmed.

Ortega explained that the FSLN leadership has met with members of the Sandinist agricultural cooperatives, with producers from the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen, and with demobilized contra peasants. Ortega said all of them reported that they are not receiving financial support from any bank, but the credits are going to powerful people who are in better economic positions.

In his speech, Ortega said the purpose of the ceremony was not simply to honor the heroes and martyrs, but to think carefully about what is happening in Nicaragua 13 years after the war, what is happening in Condega, and about what remains for Nicaraguans to do in the country.

Ortega affirmed that when the Sandinists stirred the people to struggle against Somoza, they did it without

making any political or ideological distinctions: The Nicaraguans willing to fight were called on to struggle for a truly democratic government. The FSLN defeated the Somoza dictatorship.

Ortega said those objectives have been accomplished in the political, economic, and social fields. However, he also said he was certain that if people of Condega and any other part of the country were asked how they felt, they would say they are dissatisfied because there are many economic problems in the country, especially unemployment and hunger. That means democracy is not being implemented.

Therefore, he added, it is necessary to find a way to overcome the grave problems that are negatively affecting the majority of the people.

Finally, Ortega urged the people not to permit the reemergence of the barracks that nourished Somozism, hunger, unemployment, and misery.

Panama

Linares Warns Against Attacks on U.S. Soldiers

PA1606204992 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Jun 92 p 2A

[By Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio E. Linares has appealed to people he described as "good Panamanians," cautioning them that attacks on U.S. soldiers and military installations by civilians are not going to harm the United States as a state but will primarily harm Panamanians.

According to Linares, these attacks could take the lives of U.S. citizens who have nothing to do with planning their country's foreign policy. He noted: The atmosphere that the attacks create could block the arrival of investors in the country, and Panama is in no condition to face a high unemployment rate.

With regard to the continuous presence of U.S. military vehicles, including armed vehicles, in Panama City, Linares explained that, according to the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, those vehicles can be mobilized anywhere in Panamanian territory as long as they are on an official mission. However, if the U.S. vehicles form part of a convoy, the U.S. military authorities must first notify the Panamanian authorities, and the convoy may be escorted by a Panamanian patrol car.

Linares reacted angrily to local newspaper charges that, when President George Bush went to Plaza Porras on 11 June, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry was turned into a barracks by the U.S. President's security corp.

In the opinion of Minister Linares, these charges were made by the opposition and by some newspapers that want to harm the government's image. He wondered why some people do not officially present these charges to the Foreign Ministry so that it may handle the matter. He referred specifically to LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA.

Linares wondered how LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, whose deputy director is a former foreign minister and former deputy foreign minister, can restate charges that "sometimes are ill-advised and foolish." "It looks," Linares said sarcastically, "like the Foreign Ministry had no beneficial effect on him."

Linares also wondered how LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA could express doubts about the fact that the Presidents of Panama and the United States held serious talks on very complex issues during the brief stay of the U.S. President in Panama.

Linares criticized the media for not giving more coverage to the positive aspects of Bush's visit, considering that Bush and his Panamanian counterpart discussed issues such as the problems of El Chorrillo victims, the losses suffered by businessmen and industrialists, the high unemployment rate, the reverted areas, the military bases, and the need to be knowledgeable about current legislation.

PRD Head Reports Raid Involving U.S. Soldiers

PA1606211292 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2023 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Panama City, 16 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—U.S. soldiers in civilian clothes, accompanied by Panamanian officials, on 16 June raided the residence of a leader of the party that supported General Manuel Antonio Noriega's regime, Gerardo Gonzalez told ACAN-EFE.

Gonzalez, president of the Revolutionary Democratic Party (PRD), linked this action to ongoing investigations into the death last week of a U.S. soldier and protests against the visit of U.S. President George Bush to Panama.

A spokesman for the U.S. Army's Southern Command, which has 10,000 soldiers stationed along the Panama Canal, told ACAN-EFE that "investigations are being conducted" on the incident that Gonzalez described as "political persecution."

Further on Raid

PA1706023592 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Report by Alexandra Ciniglio]

[Text] U.S. and Judicial Technical Police [PTJ] authorities on 16 June raided the residence of legislator Gerardo Gonzalez. The incident occurred at about 1300 when eight U.S. subjects, three PTJ members, and Mr. Antonio Maza of the Assistant Prosecutor's Office surrounded the residence of the legislator and president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] claiming to be looking for an individual who was neither identified nor found.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] I was shown an illegal and arbitrary search warrant, I resisted the search, and as a result, the U.S. subjects knocked down the door, entered and searched the entire house, and took some of my documents. [end recording]

Gerardo Gonzalez and his attorneys described this as a terrorist act because the authorities obviously abused their privileges, especially because U.S. subjects were involved, and Gonzalez himself was not even allowed to see the warrant.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] I have immunity as a leader of a party and as a legislator. To be able to enter my residence to persecute me [as heard], they need authorization from both the Electoral Tribunal and the Legislative Assembly. They violated the Constitution and the law; they violated everything. [end recording]

However, that alleged violation of immunity for parliamentarians is not clearly specified in the Constitution:

[Begin former Supreme Court Magistrate Cesar Quintero recording] There is a theory that immunity pertains only to the legislator. In practice, that immunity also includes the legislator's residence, but the Constitution says nothing about it. [end recording]

On 16 June the Legislative Assembly established a commission made up of legislators of the various blocs to analyze the case and file a report before the full assembly, which will in turn issue a communique on this incident.

Legislators Comment on Use of U.S. Funds

PA1706042992 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Legislator Gerardo Gonzalez said that from the very beginning the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] has said that funds granted by the United States were to help the rich and not the poor.

The first package of $420 million in aid sent by the United States to Panama was used mostly to help the banking system rather than to help the people, according to a report disclosed by the U.S. Congress. Legislator Gerardo Gonzalez said that it is very obvious that the funds have not been used for social works. We have here Legislator Gonzalez' comments:

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The description given by the comptroller general is quite accurate. From the beginning we said that the $420 million was not being used to help our people but to help the wealthy. We have been making these allegations since 1990. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Legislator Alberto Cigarruista said that in these situations, the criteria of both nations exist; that is, either the people's needs are met, or payments are made on the foreign debt in order to qualify for credit.

[Begin Cigarruista recording] The United States held the position that, in the short term, the funds should have been invested in social works. That would have been very positive for the nation and for the government. The government's political conditions would certainly have improved at that stage of the game. In the long run, however, I believe that the government's decision has been much wiser than what the U.S. Government, through its Congress, is currently demanding. But who is right and who is wrong? We will see this once the laws on voluntary retirement and privatization are approved, when international credits allegedly will be made available. [end recording]

Meanwhile, [Christian Democratic] Legislator Milton Henriquez added that his party had previously commented on the use of those funds.

[Begin Henriquez recording] It is not the same to earmark funds as to actually use them. A contract can be signed and an agreement can be made on the use of the funds, but the funds can remain in the bank six months or one more year. This aid was to reactivate the economy. The idea was that the funds would quickly infuse our economy and make it take off. [end recording]

Comptroller General Ruben Dario Carles pointed out that the U.S. congressional reports contain some errors at the same time he made public the Panamanian Government's use of the funds. Nevertheless, the legislators questioned by KW Continente said that the report published by the comptroller general confirms the report presented by the U.S. Congress.

Argentina

'Controversial' U.S. Court Ruling Under Study

PY1706013292 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0002 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 16 Jun (TELAM)—Today the Argentine Government was studying a formal diplomatic answer to a controversial U.S. Supreme Court ruling that endorses the seizing of people in foreign countries for trial in U.S. courts. Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella has said the ruling was "shocking."

The surprising ruling by the U.S. court, which has upset jurisprudence by endorsing the virtual abduction of people from various parts of the world for trial in the United States, has elicited rapid reactions of repudiation from other countries like Mexico.

In Argentina, the reports datelined Washington mobilized government officials in the diplomatic and legal fields. The position that Argentina will assume in this regard was being studied at the highest level today.

In statements to reporters, Di Tella said: "If that decision is ever implemented, the presumed right to abduct people—it can be interpreted as such despite the fact that it is not exactly what the U.S. court has said—will be considered as something extremely serious in our country."

After referring to the ruling as "shocking" and saying the matter was "very serious," Di Tella warned that it would be "very serious if an abduction or something similar to what the U.S. Supreme Court has authorized ever happens in our territory."

The minister, however, explained that this matter "in no way weakens the excellent relations" between Argentina and the United States. By this evening, the government had not yet released any official communique on the subject.

Deputy Foreign Minister Fernando Petrella refused to give a hasty answer on the subject, adding that firsthand information is being gathered from U.S. authorities. He said consultations are being held with the Justice Ministry, which is headed by Leon Arslanian, to evaluate the scope, background, and possible repercussions of the U.S. court decision.

"It is a thorny, sensitive matter that we have to analyze with criteria that are in line with the current situation and not with the situation that prevailed in previous decades," Petrella said.

Justice Minister Leon Arslanian said today that the ruling entails "a regression in history," adding that it was "absolutely unfortunate and a serious regression in history."

Arslanian said the U.S. court decision was made "without consulting other countries whose sovereignty can be seriously harmed." [passage omitted]

In turn, the Justicialist Party rapidly and strongly reacted by stating in a communique that the U.S. court "intends to legalize the U.S. Government decision to become the only world authority."

The communique states that the measure "violates the autonomy and jurisdiction of nations, and it is a flagrant violation of the principles of international coexistence, the principles of international law, and the agreements reached within the United Nations."

After expressing its "most absolute repudiation," the Justicialist Party asked the branches of government to "issue the appropriate statements, clearly demanding respect for the sovereignty and self-determination of nations."

The communique concludes by stating that "the response to internationalized action cannot be the imposition of other forms of violence, but the development of and compliance with the law within the framework of the pacts arranged by sovereign nations, striving to preserve the full observance of UN principles." [passage omitted]

Menem Pressured on Iranian Nuclear Deal

PY1606210492 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Jun 92 p 9

[By Alfredo Canedo]

[Text] President Carlos Menem has been under strong pressure from Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella not to cancel nuclear contracts with Iran since the day of his return from the Middle East at the beginning of May.

Some of Di Tella's most important recommendations are:

1. Renegotiate contracts signed between the public company Applied Investigations (Invap) and Iran's pilot plant for uranium purification and fuel elements production.

2. Submit the new nuclear contracts with Iran for consideration by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

3. Accept the new contracts, which will be worth about $18 million.

4. Participate, through Invap, in building the reactor programmed at Teheran University that never was rejected by the IAEA.

5. Continue Argentina's nuclear relations with Iran—which began during Shah Pahlevi's administration—for purely economic purposes and without eventual military applications.

Di Tella's "reasonable arguments"—which have very weak flanks—already have been rejected by the president. A few weeks ago Menem signed Decree No. 603/92 prohibiting the exportation of sensitive information and nuclear energy elements to Iran. The president also

announced the privatization of the Atucha I and Embalse nuclear power plants and the liquidation of the plutonium producing plant, the uranium enrichment and radioisotopes processing and producing plant, and the uranium ore manufacturing facilities.

The president also has taken steps to increasingly distance himself from Di Tella. For instance, Menem estimated a 1992 investment of $900 million in the area of nuclear energy. Of this total, $360 million is allotted to the Atucha II power plant, $100 million to salaries for researchers, operators, and administration employees, $60 million to projects, $150 million to operational expenses, and the rest to pay debts.

After meeting with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia on 5 May, Menem announced to a large group of reporters at the palace's entrance stairs that he would suspend nuclear shipments to Iran and exports to Iraq worth $350 million. The president added, however, that the losses would be compensated for by Saudi investments in Argentina.

Back in Buenos Aires, Presidency Secretary General Eduardo Bauza informed Menem that State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler had sent him a message saying the U.S. Government had information, although not enough evidence, about alleged Iranian complicity in the attack against the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires on 17 March.

On 1 June, Media Secretary Raul Burzaco read Menem part of an article published the day before by THE WASHINGTON POST saying: "Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney approved the Pentagon's plan (Defense Planning Guide) providing for the shipment to Saudi Arabia of needed equipment for stationing five or six fighter squadrons, that is nearly 400 planes, in that country. In the document, the United States and Saudi Arabia agreed to beef up the military presence in the border areas with Iran and Iraq, without ruling out the cooperation of friendly nations."

Incidentally, two weeks ago President George Bush authorized the CIA to triple its $15 million budget for intelligence and covert actions against the government of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Of course, the Argentine Government could not be detached from this U.S. action. On 30 May, Di Tella; the chief of [the Foreign Ministry] staff, Andres Cisneros; UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali; and a delegation of Canadian military officers met at the Foreign Ministry to discuss Argentine participation in the "international peace" operations in the Middle East. At this meeting, the minister championed Iranian President 'Ali Hashemi- Rafsanjani's "moderate line" and harshly criticized the UN military cooperation program, although he approved the initiative of having Argentine Armed Forces troops enlisted and specially trained within the contingents of "blue helmets."

In Defense

Nevertheless, Defense Minister Erman Gonzalez is more cautious. He told UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali that he is not willing to send 100 officers to the "blue helmets" contingent stationed in the Middle East, claiming a lack of funds for normal Armed Forces tasks and even fewer funds to finance with additional funds—in addition to those already allocated ($9 million for every six months)—new military expeditions abroad. In this regard, the Argentine troops recruited by the United Nations are distributed as follows: six officers in the Golan Heights, 15 in Angola, 15 in Western Sahara, 37 in Central America, two in Cambodia, 873 in Croatia, and seven on the Iranian-Iraqi border.

The UN secretary general, in turn, advanced two issues that are not easy at all:

1. Argentina must pay, before September, $150 million—five times more than two years ago—to maintain the 52,000 "blue helmets" distributed worldwide.

2. The UN budget for this purpose was increased in 1992 from $700 million to $3 billion and there are many debtors. The United States alone owes $800 million.

In a nutshell, these issues—so to speak, the less important ones—serve to increase the tensions in the foreign policy of Dr. Menem's government, although it cannot be established here which is the egg and which is the chicken.

Bulgarian President Signs Agreements With Menem

PY1706003892 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] This morning President Carlos Menem received Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev, with whom he signed a series of agreements particularly linked to the elimination of visa requirements in the two countries. After signing the agreements President Menem said:

[Begin recording] Bulgaria is one of the countries that moved from an oppressive regime—the communist system—to a regime of broad freedoms and democracy. This visit is very important. It is the first visit by a Bulgarian president since 1931 when we established diplomatic relations with that country. Bulgaria is very important for us in that European region. We talked about this with President Zhelev. Officials from the two countries will broaden this dialogue. It is quite possible that I will visit Bulgaria soon to help create more fluid relations. We will discuss launching joint ventures to benefit our two peoples. [end recording]

Holds News Conference, Ends Visit

AU1706075292 Sofia BTA in English 2022 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Report by special correspondent Yordanka Bozhilova]

[Text] Buenos Aires, June 16 (BTA)—"Bulgaria is among the countries carrying out a very smooth transition from an oppressive regime, as was the communist regime, to a broad and free democracy. I set great store by the first Argentine visit of the first democratically elected Bulgarian president. It is the first visit by a Bulgarian head of state since 1931 when diplomatic relations were established," Argentinian President Carlos Saul Menem told journalists, answering a question by BTA after the end of the official talks this morning.

The Argentinian president also stressed Bulgaria's important role in Eastern Europe. "The Bulgarian president and I discussed this topic," he said. "We will further develop our dialogue. Visits of official representatives will be exchanged and it is very likely that I will visit Bulgaria as a step towards more regular contacts," President Menem said.

President Zhelev was also pleased with the meeting at which a variety of problems were discussed. One of the topics was Bulgaria's possible cooperation with Argentina and all member countries of the South American trade group Mercosur. "We have many shared interests. Actually, we hold identical views on the Balkans, the former Soviet Union and the other problems we discussed," Dr. Zhelev stressed.

The meeting between the presidents was the highlight of Dr. Zhelev's visit to Argentina, which ends today.

Foreign Ministers Stoyan Ganev of Bulgaria and Guido di Tella of Argentina today signed and exchanged notes lifting the visa requirement for Bulgarian and Argentinian holders of diplomatic and service passports. They also signed a memorandum on understanding.

In a statement for the press, Mr. Guido di Tella assessed highly the results of the talks, stressing the importance of the agreements on privatization, trade and emigration.

Later today Dr. Zhelev and the official delegation visited the Argentinian Congress, where there were welcomed by Senate President Eduardo Menem and Chamber of Deputies President Alberto Pierri. Dr. Zhelev spoke about the transition from totalitarianism to democracy, and Mikhail Nedelchev MP [member of Parliament] of the Union of Democratic Forces, deputy chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee, familiarized the hosts with the work of the Bulgarian National Assembly.

The last day of the official visit included meetings at the Supreme Court and with the acting governor of the Buenos Aires Province in its capital, La Plata.

This was the end of President Zhelev's ten-day tour of Latin America.

Armenia's Ter-Petrosyan Ends Official Visit

PY1606220292

[Editorial Report] Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish on 12 June on page 4 carries an article reporting on the activities Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan carried out during his official visit to Argentina. In a detailed report, the article states that during the Armenian president's visit, the Argentine and Armenian Governments signed cooperation and commercial agreements. It adds that through Provisional Senate President Eduardo Menem, the Argentine Government has expressed "its willingness to cooperate in a UN peacekeeping mission in the Nagorno-Karabakh area, which is now submerged in a war that directly affects Armenia."

The article says Ter-Petrosyan said: "The war poses a serious problem for Armenia because its imports will be reduced by 50 percent."

It adds that the Armenian president said his country is not at war but that the current situation undermines obtaining financial resources and this is causing labor problems and a food shortage.

The article states that "during a news conference held before his departure for Rio de Janeiro in the company of President Carlos Menem aboard the Argentine presidential plane, Ter-Petrosyan said, 'he thinks it is unlikely the CIS will break up' although he mentioned the possibility that 'in the future it may be organized differently.'"

It states that the Armenian president said he thinks Turkey will not intervene directly in the Nagorno-Karabakh area because Red Army divisions are still present along the borders, but he explained that statements made by the Turkish opposition clearly show that Turkey is not a neutral country and has expressed support for Azerbaijan.

The article adds that within the framework of Ter-Petrosyan's visit to Argentina and during a ceremony at the Olivios presidential residence that was attended by high-ranking officials, the Argentine and Armenian presidents signed on 11 June a general cooperation agreement and two memoranda of understanding on consulting mechanisms and cultural matters.

It states that during another ceremony on 11 June at the congressional building, Provisional Senate President Eduardo Menem said Argentina is willing to cooperate in the UN peacekeeping process in the Nagorno-Karabakh area.

The report states that Ter-Petrosyan responded by stating: "'Like in Yugoslavia, international organizations are reacting very slowly' regarding the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict." It states that Ter-Petrosyan added: "'I am certain we can count on Argentina's support to achieve the UN Security Council's intervention' in this matter, and warned that 'if a peacekeeping force is not sent to this region within one or two months, the

situation will be unbearable.' Ter-Petrosyan also admitted that the recognition of Nagorno-Karabakh's independence will help achieve the pacification of the region."

The report adds that after a meeting with Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo, visiting Armenian Vice Economy Minister Haik Sarkisyan announced on 11 June that Argentina and Armenia were scheduled to sign a commercial agreement on 12 June. It states that Sarkisyan said that despite the geographic distance separating the two countries, Argentina and Armenia can develop fruitful economic ties, "such as in the industrial area, particularly regarding scientific-technological matters and the exchange of trained personnel."

The article concludes by stating that this commercial economic agreement is encompassed within the framework of the general agreement signed on 10 June [date as published] by the Argentine and Armenian presidents.

Bolivia

Vice President, Army Chief Reject U.S. Ruling

PY1706030092 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Bolivian Vice President Luis Ossio Sanjines and Army Commander in Chief General Oscar Vargas Lorenzetti believe that the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that authorizes the abduction of criminals in any country in the world without the authorization of the affected country violates the sovereignty of other states.

As a possible solution to this problem, Vice President Ossio Sanjines proposed the signing of multilateral rather than bilateral extradition treaties so that every country can be forced to comply with them.

[Begin recording] [Ossio] To this end, the United States will have to comply with legal requirements in any nation in the world. Otherwise, it would be violating the sovereignty of other peoples and the principles governing sound international relations.

I can believe the Supreme Court handed down a ruling authorizing such an action, but no supreme court could obviously issue a ruling that is against the law. Any action of this nature will have to be implemented complying with the requirements of each country as well as with the provisions of international treaties.

[Unidentified reporter] In this case, would it be appropriate to renew the extradition treaty, as some people have suggested?

[Ossio] I believe it would be useful to sign an extradition treaty if it is done on a multilateral basis; that is, if it is not on a bilateral basis, because this type of treaty does not encompass the whole spectrum of what an extradition treaty should cover. For instance, it would be useful for us to sign an extradition treaty at the OAS level. [end recording]

Commenting on the same subject, Gen. Vargas said that Bolivia will not tolerate a violation of our national sovereignty.

[Begin recording] [Vargas] Bolivia is a sovereign country. It has its own laws and its own officials who are capable of solving this type of situation. We do not need the support of foreign forces to enforce our laws.

[Reporter] Taking into account that this is a U.S. Supreme Court ruling, will foreign forces be allowed to enter our country?

[Vargas] The U.S. Supreme Court is precisely that, of the United States, not of Bolivia.

[Reporter] In any case, it will not be permitted?

[Vargas] Of course not. [end recording]

Further Criticism of U.S. Decision

PY1606192292 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpts] [Begin Pancho Roque Jr. relay from Washington] [passage omitted] We have two reports. One of them may have major repercussions in Bolivia's legal future. The other report is of an international nature.

The U.S. Supreme Court—which is the top U.S. court—has surprisingly authorized the U.S. Government, by a six to three vote, to intervene in foreign countries to capture people wanted by U.S. courts in order to bring them to U.S. courts with or without the involved country's approval. In other words, as of now, under the protection of their Constitution, U.S. authorities can enter any nation and capture any person the U.S. courts consider a criminal. This decision endorses all future actions by covert commandos who abduct civilians anywhere in the world to bring them to U.S. courts, disregarding all extradition treaties and international laws of respect for every nation's sovereignty. [passage omitted] [end relay] [passage omitted]

[Radio Fides Director Father Eduardo Perez Iribarne] You have just heard, listeners, that the United States wants the entire world to become a U.S. province. The United States wants to maintain the international community in a permanent state of war without international law, sovereign states, or borders. The gringo prepotency of money and their export-model Rambos are the only things that will prevail. But if one of these Rambos is killed in any country, including Bolivia, that country will become their target and the United States will surely declare war and annihilate all of us. Never mind.

The decisions of the U.S. institutions, its government, and its legal structures, exceed common sense. The gringo Rambos cease to be human beings and become

monsters of the international community. They will turn the world wrong until their empire ends, like all prepotent imperialists that have succumbed in the world.

The U.S. Rambos will turn the cocaine criminals into national heroes. We Bolivians fully support the antidrug struggle, but if a commando tries to kidnap a Bolivian citizen, even if he is a drug trafficker, we will undoubtedly protect him. They should not believe that the power of money will grant them impunity as international pirates. International piracy and dollar prepotency are two very important aspects for the United States, but from this radio station, we tell the gringos that despite being very rich, they will not be tolerated in Bolivia. They will find something that they did not expect because this country is made up of free people, not slaves.

If they seek to eliminate the United Nations, the national state, and international law and want to lead the country their own way, I will tell them in English: No way [given in English], so that the gringos from the U.S. Embassy can be aware of it. I do not know how they have the nerve to still continue to operate in Bolivia at a diplomatic level. If this report is true, we cannot talk about international law, diplomatic status, or ambassador, but merely a henchman of a prepotent [word indistinct].

Brazil

U.S. Court Ruling 'Violates' Sovereignty

PY1606234292 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpts] A U.S. Supreme Court ruling that authorizes the abduction of people from other countries to stand trial in the United States has unleashed an international crisis. [passage omitted]

In Brasilia, Justice Minister Celio Borja stated that the U.S. Supreme Court ruling violates the principle of sovereignty to which each country is entitled. The Brazilian Foreign Ministry will release an official communique today on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

Chile

Foreign Minister Rejects U.S. Court Ruling

PY1606233492 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2304 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] The Chilean Government has rejected a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that legalized the abduction in other countries of people indicted by U.S. courts. This was emphasized by Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma. We simply do not accept it, he said.

The foreign minister was asked about the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that determined that the U.S. Government may abduct people abroad for trial in the United States independent of the existence of extradition treaties between two nations. We cannot conceive of it nor accept it in Chile without extradition, Foreign Minister Silva Cimma said.

Further on Silva Cimma Remarks

PY1706133992 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma has said that he does not understand the U.S. Supreme Court ruling which allows the abduction of people in other countries for trial in the United States.

The foreign minister said he can neither understand nor conceive of such a decision, but this does not mean that Chile will not respect it. He added that he would rather not speculate or make a statement on a ruling which has not yet been consolidated.

The foreign minister made these remarks after signing a letter of intent with the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, through which the Chilean National Airline will fly to Australia via the Cook Islands.

Acting Supreme Court President Marcos Aburto has termed risky the U.S. Court ruling which allows abduction of people in other countries for trial in the United States. He said that this ruling will raise serious objections. He added that the reasoning behind this ruling is deeply mistaken because it argues that since the extradition treaties do not contemplate such a situation, abduction is legalized.

[Begin Aburto recording] This is the most risky decision we can conceive because the reasoning is too general, and consequently it can be applied in any country; that is, the same principle can be implemented within the international concert of nations, and consequently all countries are facing the risk that its citizens may be abducted and taken to the United States for trial. [end recording]

Moreover, Judge Adolfo Banados Cuadra, who is hearing the Letelier case, said that this ruling could be applied against General Manuel Contreras and Brigadier Pedro Espinoza, both of whom are wanted by U.S. courts for the murder of Orlando Letelier. This request has been rejected by the Chilean courts.

[Begin Banados Cuadra recording] According to this ruling, it appears that the U.S. Government or the police—I do not know who in the United States—can enter any country. The first impression is that this as a juridical aberration. I do not know whether an abduction like this could take place in our country. So far there are no indications of it. [end recording]

Banados Cuadra added that it is necessary to read the entire text of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Furthermore, Army Auditor General [title as heard] Fernando Torres Silva has said that this implies a new world legal order. He added that the situation would be laughable if it did not have serious implications for all countries.

Torres Silva added that it implies a peaceful invasion at court level and it deserves an official reaction.

Swedish Prime Minister Meets With Aylwin

PY1506213792 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] At a meeting with Chilean President Patricio Aylwin, Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt said that the social security problem of the more than 30,000 Chileans living in Sweden has virtually been solved. Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma was also present at that meeting. He said:

[Begin recording] I had the opportunity to discuss this matter when I visited Sweden in November 1991. The Swedish prime minister has just informed President Aylwin that this problem has virtually been solved. Chileans will be told about access to social security because this is important for them. [end recording]

The Swedish Prime Minister said that the Chilean transition process is very important, both for Chile itself and for others to which Chile represents an example. He also stressed the role played by President Patricio Aylwin, adding that with the forthcoming municipal elections the transition process will be complete.

[Begin Bildt recording, in English with passage by passage Spanish translation] I think the transition in Chile has been important primarily for Chile itself; that is obvious. But I think it is also important for other countries as well; it provided a very good example that I think will be of great importance for the future. Now we have the local elections, which is also important for completing the democratic transition; that is good. [end recording]

This is the first visit of a Swedish official since the return of democracy to Chile in 1990.

Rejects U.S. Supreme Court Ruling

PY1706001492 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Report by Mario Contreras from mobile unit]

[Excerpts] Discussing a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that allows the abduction of people by the nation of the North, Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt said that Sweden does not accept extraterritoriality. The Swedish prime minister discussed this point, among other issues, during a news conference held to mark the end of his visit, which began on 13 June. [passage omitted]

Among other points, the Swedish prime minister was asked about the U.S. Supreme Court ruling concerning U.S. citizens.

[Begin Bildt recording in English with superimposed Spanish translation] Of course we don't, in principle, accept extraterritoriality when it comes to legal proceedings. I will have to look at the details [word indistinct] but the practice has certainly gone on in the past. [end recording]

The Swedish prime minister recalled the case involving Abu Nidal, who was abducted while flying over the Mediterranean and taken to Sicily. The same thing happened, he added, with former Panamanian President Manuel Antonio Noriega, who was taken to the United States. [passage omitted]

Clodomiro Almeyda Resigns as Envoy to Moscow

PY1606114892 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Former Chilean Ambassador to Russia Clodomiro Almeyda paid his last official visit to the Foreign Ministry today. He went to say farewell to Under Secretary Edmundo Vargas.

[Begin recording] [Almeyda] I came to say farewell to Edmundo Vargas and to thank him for his goodwill during the time I was in charge of the mission in Moscow. I also came to wish him well in his future activities at the Foreign Ministry. This was only a friendly and protocol visit.

[Unidentified reporter] When you returned from Moscow, you said that you had to say farewell before concluding your mission. This was not clear to us at the time. Have you finished your mission now?

[Almeyda] I handed my resignation to the foreign minister before he left for Paraguay and Rio de Janeiro. He will probably study it in the next few days. [end recording]

Almeyda added that he has not yet returned to political party activities and that he is still carrying out the normal administrative tasks of an individual returning to our country. Regarding the Honecker case, former Ambassador Almeyda declined to comment. He said:

[Begin recording] [Almeyda] You know that I cannot express my opinion on this issue.

[First unidentified reporter] Why?

[Almeyda] Because the foreign minister, using good sense, has recommended that we refrain from commenting because we could jeopardize a confidential issue.

[Second unidentified reporter] But how do you see this case now that you are free from it?

[Almeyda] I am not free from it by any means. I will continue to obey the guidelines of the Foreign Ministry, especially regarding discretion. [end recording]

Colombia

Official Protest to U.S. Supreme Court Ruling

PA1706010092 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Colombia strongly rejects the U.S. Supreme Court ruling and has asked the State Department to issue its opinion on whether the U.S. Government is going to use this tool in its struggle against crime.

Colombia feels that the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling is aimed at legitimizing an ominous crime, such as kidnapping, and warns that if this occurs to any Colombian national, no matter who he is, relations with the U.S. Government will suffer.

Foreign Minister Noemi Sanin and Justice Minister Fernando Carrillo issued a communique in which they point out that the procedure carried out in Mexico with regard to Dr. Humberto Alvarez, who was involved in the murder of DEA agent Enrique Camarena, violated the principles of international law and the U.S.-Mexican extradition treaty. Here are Foreign Minister Sanin's words:

[Begin Sanin recording] We reject any type of kidnapping. Our sovereignty, our territorial integrity, and our jurisdiction will have to be respected so that Colombians are brought to trial in accordance with our internal laws, our Constitution, and international law. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the justice minister said that Colombia had given ample proof of its struggle against drug trafficking and terrorism—efforts that have been acknowledged by the United States. Therefore, kidnapping in our country, he noted, is not a valid tool to combat these crimes. We have Justice Minister Carrillo's words:

[Begin Carrillo recording] The government considers that the sole efficient tool against crime must be within the framework of respect of jurisdiction; that is, the peoples' right to self-determination based on constitutional legal rights. [end recording]

In our hemisphere, everything seems to point at Colombia—whose cocaine cartels have violated U.S. law—as the next target of an operation to capture criminals, particularly in those areas where the suspects did not turn themselves in voluntarily. [passage omitted]

Senate Makes 'Last Minute Reforms' to VAT Bill

PA1606175392 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1630 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] New modifications had to be made to the new tax reforms just when the bill is in the home stretch. Three last minute reforms to the VAT [value added tax] bill were introduced at the Senate. The modifications, which must be analyzed by a mediation commission formed by the Chamber of Representatives and Senate members, includes points like eliminating the VAT on plastic and cardboard packages, which have been taxable until now and which are used to pack family basket products. The modifications also include a reduction in the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise tax from 75 to 37.5 percent and eliminating the VAT on stock exchange commissions.

[Begin Senator Victor Renan Barco recording] We hope to pass the bill in the Senate this week. Any modifications will be sent to the Senate and to the Chamber of Representatives on 23 June. [end recording]

CNGSB Spokesman Denies Threats Against Media

PA1706033892 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Alfonso Cano, spokesman for the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board, CNGSB, made a statement for the "24 Hour Newscast" from Tlaxcala, Mexico. He clarified that his organization has nothing to do with the communique threatening the media.

[Begin Cano recording] The communique circulating in Colombia threatening two prestigious Colombian journalists is a spurious document that has been attributed to the CNGSB. It is not the responsibility of the CNGSB, and it was written with the intention of hurting the peace process. The CNGSB disavows this document and does not accept responsibility for this communique. [end recording]

Government Branches Reach Accord on Constitution

PA1706034492 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Differences between the three government branches were ironed out at the Narino Palace on 16 June. At an unprecedented meeting, President Cesar Gaviria met with leaders of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches to calm down emotions that were running high due to the various interpretations given to the new Constitution. Although the statement issued at the end of the meeting was not very explicit, the objective apparently was accomplished.

The meeting between the three government branches clarified only one thing for the time being: the president called for order so that interpretations of the new constitution will not be an obstacle to institutional changes currently taking place in the country.

During the past few days, differences between the leaders of the three government branches resulted in confrontations. The legislative, judicial and executive branches expressed different opinions regarding kickbacks, petitions for protection, and the legal problem of the 19 April Movement Democratic Alliance. The branches were confronting each other and there also seemed to be a lack of authority in the nation. Hence, to find a solution, the president convoked a meeting between the three branches to reconcile their differences.

[Begin Gaviria recording] What we are experiencing is not consonant with the will of the Constituent Assembly members: In the 1991 Constitution, the separation of branches, institutions, and functions does not mean there should be confrontations. We realize emotions are running high now as a result of recent developments because the constitution created mechanisms to unify criteria. Let us use those mechanisms. We must unify our way of thinking and interpreting situations so that we do not continue to live in the past. However, we should not hastily believe that the letter of the new Constitution changed everything automatically. [end recording]

After four hours there was a single voice among the men who represent Colombian institutions. Commenting on the meeting, Supreme Court President Pedro Lafont Pianetta said:

[Begin Lafont Pianetta] The various government branches committed themselves to work in harmony, each one within its scope of responsibility. [end recording]

In sum, the three government branches agreed to work together at finding in the new Constitution mechanisms of cooperation and not interpretations that will lead to new confrontations.

Paraguay

Constitution Forbids Presidential Reelection

PY1606143892 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 16 Jun 92 p 3

[Excerpt] The current president will definitely not be eligible for reelection according to what was established yesterday in one of the articles encompassed in the temporary clauses of the future national constitution. This decision was approved by individual voting and yielded the following result: 102 votes in favor of no reelection and 75 votes against it.

Although the Colorado vote was divided, the majority pronounced itself against the reelection of the current president. The subject provoked an exhaustive debate during which dissident opinions were heard. About 40 speakers asked to address the assembly.

The approved measure establishes that those restrictions encompassed in the new constitution pertaining to the reelection of officials to elective posts in all government branches also apply to those serving in the current government term. It also establishes that the current government delegates, and those who have held such posts from 1991 to 1992, will not be eligible to run for governor in the 1993 elections.

Speaking against the inclusion of this article, majority bloc leader Oscar Paciello argued that he believes its inclusion was completely unnecessary. He added that this measure was aimed at one person, the current president. Paciello also reminded those present that the president has already stated on several occasions that he will not seek reelection. [passage omitted]

Commanders Condemn Article

PY1606160092 Asuncion Radio Nacional del Paraguay Network in Spanish 1115 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Impromptu speech by Navy Commander Eduardo Gonzalez Petit to President Andres Rodriguez, in representation of the Armed Forces commanders during a meeting at Government House—live]

[Text] The Constituent Assembly decision offends the Armed Forces and our commander in chief. That is why we are here today. We want to express our indignation against those who, in an irresponsible way, have publicly doubted your word and loudly expressed their doubts at the forum where they serve as representatives of the Paraguayan people to elaborate a Constitution that will allow us to work for the greatness of the fatherland. The occasion was not appropriate to maliciously legislate against one person.

Last night we witnessed a dark period in our history. Constituent Assembly members inscribed an example of the most despicable ingratitude and the most unfair discrimination against one person—none less than the president of the Republic—in the Constitution.

Last night one of the most illustrious personalities on the continent, Costa Rican President Rafael Calderon Fournier, said that General Rodriguez was the architect and craftsman of the Paraguayan transition to democracy. At the same moment a few bad Paraguayans, precisely those who extracted the greatest political advantage from the Candelaria night [referring to the coup on 2 Feb 1989]—including some who were at the opposite trenches—unfairly and undeservingly insulted the Armed Forces and their commander in chief.

But at least we saw the untrue friends without their masks. It is very painful to see some Colorado Party followers—perhaps those who were most privileged and favored by the transition—acting in a dictatorial and discriminatory way to eliminate the possibility of the presidential nomination of a Paraguayan. The decision affects precisely the person who did most for his fatherland. The decision does not consider the people's vote.

We once more want to express our firm wish to support you in all your decisions, particularly now because this decision has hurt and surprised us. We always believed that gratitude was a virtue typical of Paraguayans. We want to hear your instructions, General, because right now perhaps only you can find the serene and adequate words needed to calm the indignation of those you command. This unfair insult has united us more than ever. You can count on us and our comrades without conditions. [applause]

Rodriguez Thanks Supporters

PY1606144892 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1115 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] [Ibanez] Mr. President of the Republic of Paraguay, on behalf of the Colorado Peasant Coordinating Board we have come to express our support. We have come to tell you that the lack of gratitude showed by some Colorado Party followers is not characteristic of the peasants. We have come to say that yesterday the Colorado Peasant Coordinating Board expressed its gratitude because, thanks to you today we have a free fatherland, thanks to you today we can talk, thanks to you today we can even make mistakes when talking. It is understandable to hear peasants who are eager to help the development of our country making mistakes. We strongly tell you, Mr. President, that we are with you, that the Colorado peasant spirit is not represented by those Colorado Party members who made a very unfortunate decision yesterday. The Colorado Peasant Coordinating Board, as of today, will accompany you closely to help you implement the largest goals of the glorious Colorado Party and your government because you are doing everything possible to modernize our fatherland. Thank you. [applause]

[Justice Minister Hugo Estigarribia] From deep in my heart I would like to say on behalf of my colleagues, the ministers of the executive branch, and with the emotion that fills our hearts, that we support your work as head of the government, your attitude, your patriotism, and your well-known manliness. A few individuals did not understand that the word of a soldier is worth more than a thousand laws. Those few individuals have taken off their masks, as Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit very appropriately said a few minutes ago. We can only add to the many expressions of support and add that you should feel fortified, Mr. President. We will support your administration, your ideals, and we will continue to struggle together for the fatherland and the Colorado Party. [applause]

[President Andres Rodriguez] This a very pleasant surprise for me this morning, my dear friends and comrades. Without doubt something like this fills me with emotion. I see myself surrounded by my Army comrades, by fellow party members, and by friends who calm my spirit and fortify me with their support on this occasion because, like some of you, I consider what happened yesterday to be ingratitude by some people who hide behind curtains and use their messengers to present their proposals. I am happy to have contributed with my dear country and fatherland. A little more than three years ago, all my dear Armed Forces comrades accompanied me to open the doors to freedoms and democracy in our eternal Paraguay. Our burden in our consciences for those who fell during the fighting and spilling blood on the streets made us believe that we could conquer understanding, unity, and the belief that God would illuminate our consciences and show us the way to consolidate this democratic transition, which is so dear to all Paraguayans.

This incident will not dampen my spirit. I am ready for the struggle together with you. Your words invigorate and fortify my spirit. Your solidarity is dear, very dear to me. I thank you for your generous attitude. I also would like to reproach those who somehow have not understood me. I am sure that this article [the transitory article forbidding Rodriguez's reelection approved by the Constituent Assembly on 15 June] will only reassure the promise I made from the very first day so that those people—who are perhaps moved by special interests, which is natural, to ascend the scale to glory and perhaps, if they are lucky, to honor—will now be satisfied. This article confirms what I promised as a soldier from the first day. It was my oath from the very first minute, from my first day as elected president. I said that I would devote only one stage of my life to the service of the country as its ruler. I repeated this when the Colorado Party granted me the great honor and privilege of designating me as its candidate for the presidency. I repeated the same oath during partisan meetings, saying that I would accept the nomination and that I was willing to serve the fatherland and the Colorado Party for one term, until 15 August 1993. I repeated the same promise at the United Nations. I repeated myself at the opening ceremony of the Constituent Assembly—which we believe comprises genuine representatives of the Paraguayan people. I did not really believe there were any doubts about my oath. But perhaps this article will confirm my words. I thank those who have worked hard to include this transitory article in the new Constitution. I thank you for your support which fortifies and invigorates me as a Colorado Party member and an Armed Forces representative to continue serving with all enthusiasm, love, and all the strength of my heart, the noble and dear Paraguayan people. Thank you. [applause]

Army Commander Denies Alleged Coup Rumors

PY1606160692 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 14 Jun 92 p 5

[Text] [Army Commander] General Humberto Garcete has flatly denied insistent rumors on a coup d'etat that circulated this past weekend. He reaffirmed that the Armed Forces are determined to defend the democratic transition process that began on 2-3 February 1989.

Garcete spoke at the Silvio Pettirossi International Airport, where he welcomed President Rodriguez on his arrival from the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Garcete's remarks dissipated the rumors on an alleged destabilization plan by internal sectors of the various military units with the support of businessmen and cattle ranchers closely linked to former dictator Alfredo Stroessner's regime.

Following a meeting at which General Lino Oviedo [I Army Corps Commander] was invited by the militant movement which supports Stroessner, rumors spread that a group of officers closely linked to the ousted regime will reportedly support Stroessner's return.

Oviedo Denies Rumors

PY1606173592 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 16 Jun 92 p 4

[Text] Last night 1st Corps Commander General Lino Cesar Oviedo attended the ceremony during which Costa Rican President Rafael Calderon Fournier was decorated at the Lopez Palace with his wife Raquel Marin. As he was leaving the palace, he was consulted about rumors of a possible coup d'etat, and he said: "I am not going to participate in another coup. I have no presidential aspirations." When asked again on the matter he said: "I will not repeat it many more times: There is not the slightest possibility of such madness. The Armed Forces headed by General Rodriguez fought in response to the people's clamor for a democratic environment and that will be maintained for as long as we remain as we are."

He added: "We can assure you, as did the Army commander, there is not the slightest possibility."

When asked where these rumors come from, he answered: "They come from many places. I do not want to give my opinion on the matter. Those who do not like democracy are probably those who do not like the Armed Forces' support for democracy."

Gen. Oviedo was asked whether he ever talked about this with Rodriguez. He recalled his friendship with the president: "He has known me since I was a child. I have told you that he was my first commander when I began my military career. I was his assistant for seven years, and I am still his subordinate. He is my friend and the godfather of my child. Gen. Rodriguez and I share the best and most admirable permanent relationship."

When told that good relations and kinship existed between Rodriguez and Stroessner, and yet Rodriguez overthrew him, he said: "Yes, but you must know that the previous government abandoned the political leadership of the country. He was like Fidel Castro who began with the cross on his chest."

When asked whether he thinks that the current leadership is correct, he said: "I fully agree with the current democratic management. The military area is in full agreement. We are working around the clock to dignify the Armed Forces," he added.

When he was asked again whether he ever talked about this matter with Rodriguez, he said: "I talk day and night with President Rodriguez."

He was asked: Do you talk about the coup issue? He replied: "About all issues."

When asked about the president's opinion on this point, he said: "He has full confidence in us and we talk about all his concerns, all his worries, and we try to help him day and night."

"I think this is a coup by the supermarkets that want to sell more. I think the supermarkets are taking advantage of this."

When asked whether he was scheduled to attend the Colorado Party militant faction meeting on Sunday in the town of Mariano Roque Alonso, he said: "I can only say that I was in Curuguaty since Saturday, working with my subordinates, and I did not even know about the meeting."

Concerning the Constituent Assembly article that categorically establishes that Rodriguez cannot be reelected as president of the Republic, he said: "I arrived this morning from Curuguaty and I am not even aware of what the Constituent Assembly is discussing."

He was asked about his withdrawal from the ceremony at Government Palace in honor of the Costa Rican president. He explained that his three-year-old child "has a fever and is at the 'Saint George' hospital at the Cavalry Regiment."

He was asked: "Is it true that you receive death threats?" He answered: "Do you think that those who defeated dictatorship would not receive death threats? Do you think that those who conducted the dictatorship left with the people's vote? I was not abroad and I was not far away from events."

Asked whether he has a political relationship with Luis Maria Argana, he said: "I have an affinity with all political groups. I want to tell you that whenever invited I will have lunch or dinner with Laino, Caballero Vargas, Argana, Seifart, or Riquelme. The truth is that I do not engage in politics at all. I do not know to what political trend he belongs," he said, referring to Argana. "I only know that within a political party there are 17 internal movements, but to know each political objective of each individual one must engage in party politics, and I only care about national politics."

He was asked: Is President Rodriguez also receiving death threats? He said: "Yes, he is always receiving them. For this reason he has his security. Otherwise he would have been blown to pieces by a bomb."

Asked whether these threats could come from the militant faction, he said: "I do not want to say from where they come because before the militants existed, who supported Stroessner?" When told that it was the traditionalist faction, he said: "You are very intelligent."

He said: "There are people who became millionaires with Stroessner. These people filled their pockets and when I say this to their faces, they do not like it." He declined to give names.

When told that he (Lino Oviedo) for many years also accompanied Stroessner, he answered: "Yes, but do you know what as? As a gardener," he said.

He was reminded that he was sent to Europe to study during the Stroessner regime, and he answered: "Yes I

studied in Europe, but it was against his wishes because he never wanted capable people around him. Why was I about to be separated from the Armed Forces? He always wanted idiots around him. It is one thing that we confronted him while those who did not confront him is quite another matter. There is a great difference."

When reminded that it is said that he still maintains a relationship with Stroessner, he answered: "The only thing left to be said about me is that I did not participate in the coup of 2 and 3 February. I do not know why everything bad is attributed to me," he concluded.

Oviedo Attends Stroessner Supporters Meeting

PY1706121992 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 11 Jun 92 p 6

[Text] It was confirmed by some participants of the meeting yesterday that General Lino Cesar Oviedo, the 1st Army Corps commander, participated in a Colorado Party meeting on 8 June at the house of Juan Alberto Ramirez Diaz de Espada, a Fernando de la Mora Colorado Party precinct presidential candidate.

Yesterday "Stroessnerist militants" Ramon Reverchon and Cesar Palacios said that they were present at the meeting to "fete" Oviedo for his promotion to division general.

Reverchon and Palacios did not want to elaborate on the meeting, but Palacios indicated that Oviedo discussed the country's general situation and the need to reconcile the Colorado Party family if unity is to prevail.

Palacios said that many people were present representing various political sectors, adding the meeting was not of a political nature, but to get to know the military officer.

According to some of his local political opponents, however, Ramirez Diaz de Espada's rapprochement to Oviedo has obvious political significance which could be taken into account during the upcoming Colorado Party internal elections.

The sources pointed out that Oviedo and Ramirez Diaz de Espada have been personal friends for some time and that Oviedo's rapprochement to the Fernando de la Mora Colorado Party precinct became apparent during the 1 December elections.

The sources also indicated that Diaz de Espada represents the "Stroessnerist militant" sector of the aforementioned community because he is surrounded by political figures of the overthrown regime.

Another possibility being viewed with respect to this meeting, to which the press had no access, involves the pursuit of the "Colorado Party Reconciliation" project whose goal is the Colorado Party's permanence in power in 1993, a project that is reportedly supported by important power circles within the ruling party.

Peru

Caracas TV Interviews President Fujimori

PA1206170592 Caracas Televen Canal 10 in Spanish 0215 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Full text of interview with President Alberto Fujimori by Jose Vicente Rangel, program host and former presidential candidate for the Movement for Socialist Party, at the National Palace in Lima on 2 June on the "Jose Vincente Hoy" program—recorded. Portion of interview previously published in the 9 June Latin America DAILY REPORT]

[Text] [Rangel] I am in the Grau Room at the palace of the Peruvian presidents. I will interview Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori. Pleased to meet you, Mr. President.

[Fujimori] Pleased to meet you.

[Rangel] I have great interest in this interview and would like to start with the following comment: Public figures usually have an image; an image created by the media. The private image, however, is very important to the people. You are a very well-known person in Venezuela because of the electoral victory that brought you to the presidency of the Republic and known later because of the 5 April developments. I am certain Venezuelans wish to know more about Alberto Fujimori. Who is Alberto Fujimori?

[Fujimori] First, a common and ordinary man who, during the campaign, proposed to turn Peru into a modern country with a very simple slogan: A president who is like you. This simplicity prompted the people to identify with me. Alberto Fujimori is a professional, an agricultural engineer, a former university professional, father of four children, and a homebody dedicated to his work.

[Rangel] What is your religion?

[Fujimori] Catholic.

[Rangel] Do you like animals?

[Fujimori] Very much; my youngest son Kenji and I go out to the jungle area frequently to admire Peru's fauna.

[Rangel] What do you like to read most?

[Fujimori] I am reading little these days; I am reading mostly about economics.

[Rangel] And before?

[Fujimori] Everything; adventures, for example, I read Mario Vargas Llosa.

[Rangel] By the way, after he was defeated in the elections, Vargas Llosa said he asked an Indian—a common and ordinary citizen—why he had voted for you, and the Indian, according to Vargas Llosa, answered that because he did not know you. I think this

statement reflects partially what is happening in Latin America. There is much apprehension toward traditional, conventional politicians and a search is going on. Do you not think you are part of that search?

[Fujimori] It is evident there is a renewal atmosphere in Latin America; a search for new paths allowing us to take advantage of the enormous energy of the Latin American people. I felt this during my campaign. In three weeks, I managed to (?turn around) the first round.

[Rangel] Returning to the personal arena, do you like movies?

[Fujimori] Yes, I like them very much.

[Rangel] Do you exercise?

[Fujimori] With great frequency; I am at a gymnasium at least three or four times a week. I do a little of everything.

[Rangel] You are at times depicted as a samurai. Do you practice karate? [laughter]

[Fujimori] I practice the sport; I have a very disciplined attitude in all senses, at work, even my thoughts. I try to be very orderly, logical; it is the oriental spirit.

[Rangel] What did winning the Presidency of the Republic mean to you?

[Fujimori] It was something I thought possible to achieve as part of my objectives; that is, to be able to transform Peru. To transform it through the means I mentioned, that is, the people's energy.

[Rangel] What contacts did you have with the people? That is, prior to the electoral campaign.

[Fujimori] Only as president of the National Assembly of Rectors. I had contacts especially with youths and with [sigh] many universities.

[Rangel] When did you begin to feel blocked once in the presidency—that your efforts were being blocked?

[Fujimori] Perhaps nine months or one year.

[Rangel] Why was that?

[Fujimori] It is the product of a political system inherent to Peru; a system that had become stagnant, I would say, that prevented us to forge ahead at all levels, without exception, including the executive branch.

[Rangel] What was the first obstacle?

[Fujimori] Well, the whole system was a trap. I would start with the judicial system. It was in a disastrous state because it did not allow us to tackle the terrorism issue. Congress also was an obstacle because it represented an obstacle to the economic modernization of Peru. In addition, I would also concentrate on some levels and divisions of the executive branch we are currently reforming.

[Rangel] Your 5 April decision has been described by some as a coup, others say it was a palace coup. In any event, the issue is not how it is described, but on what took place. At what time did you devise such a measure?

[Fujimori] Well, obviously, it had to happen sometime. I do not want to go into the specifics of the situation. It came to a point when the action became necessary if we wanted to prevent the country from collapsing.

[Rangel] Which one of the following three reasons—drug trafficking, political power crisis, or the Shining Path—was decisive in your decision?

[Fujimori] Basically, it was the crisis in the political system. Throughout the years, the crisis in the political system has led the country to other crisis such as terrorism, drug trafficking, and the economic crisis.

[Rangel] Based on the international reaction, if you were placed under the same circumstances, would you do the same thing?

[Fujimori] I would do it again. I do not regret what I did. Without having said it directly, I was very clear in The Bahamas. I did not go to The Bahamas to comment on a retrocession, but to explain under what circumstances it was being done and why it was necessary. I believe that this was necessary. The Peruvian people agree with this, which is essential.

[Rangel] Were you surprised by the international reaction?

[Fujimori] I expected some criticism, but obviously I had not expected that the message of the 5 April movement would become distorted. The countries in the Latin American community interpreted this movement as if I wanted to install a military-civilian government. A government where human rights, liberties, and so forth would not be respected. They did not understand, and could not conceive, that what we were looking for was a true democracy.

[Rangel] There is a very ironic situation. On 4 February, when the military coup took place in Venezuela...

[Fujimori, interrupting] I was the first president to meet with President...

[Rangel, interrupting] Exactly, you were the first president to meet with Carlos Andres Perez. At the time, shots were still being fired throughout the city. Gunpowder was still in the air. It took place under very special conditions. Nevertheless, you gave President Perez very personal support. Subsequently, President Carlos Andres Perez has been your most ardent critic. For example, on 30 May, during a press conference with international correspondents, his descriptions of you were very harsh. He even called you a traitor and ruthless. Are you surprised by the position adopted by President Carlos Andres Perez?

[Fujimori] Well, first of all, analyzing the situation the Venezuelan president is currently experiencing, it is somewhat understandable. Obviously, he is not saying it out of conviction, but out of political dividend. I have received information related to the difficulties of his administration, and probably he feels he does not have the support of his people. Therefore, he wants to project his internal problems outside of Venezuela. I believe that as president of a country, one must first try to solve your own problems and then try to solve other country's problems. Here in Peru, as you have been able to see for yourself in the streets, the people identify with the government. This is very visible.

[Rangel] Mr. President, when the government of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez broke diplomatic relations with Peru, you said this decision was influenced by a godfather status. What did you mean by that?

[Fujimori] The close relationship between Perez and Garcia. The suspension of relations with Peru is somewhat marked by the spirit I mentioned to you earlier, the tendency to look at other people's things rather than your own. Fortunately, the relations with the Venezuelan people remained intact.

[Rangel] Regarding you, Mr. President, there are fears and suspicions. Let us start with the fears. There is fear that your example might spread in the region and this is seen as a threat to the politicians.

[Fujimori] Well, I do not think we should speak of imitation. In Latin America, North America, and even throughout the world, there is an increasing need for change. There is even an independent candidate in the United States. Maybe there will be an International of the Independent with the passage of time. [laughter] Why be afraid of the people's decisions if this is the way to make democracy? If an entire people decide to make deep changes and reject the democracy of the parties, let us feel grateful. Democracy will profit from this.

[Rangel] There is also fear that you could become a hostage of the military.

[Fujimori] Those are only speculations, due perhaps to the fact that the nature of the military participation is not known. The soldiers did what they did out of full conviction, just as the Peruvian people act out of conviction. There is absolutely no difference between the motives of one and those of the other. Consequently, we are sure of this: The military leaders do not have any political ambitions. Anyway, it is the people who make the final decisions at all times. A military coup could hardly be accepted by the Peruvian people. This is the best assurance that a coup cannot occur and that I could not become a hostage of the Armed Forces.

[Rangel] Some people compare your experience to what happened in Uruguay with President Bordaberry.

[Fujimori] I am not familiar with this particular incident in Uruguay. I think Peru's case is unique. This is an entirely civilian movement, backed by the people and the Armed Forces, in obedience to a decision by their commander in chief. The military just supported a decision made by their commander in chief.

[Rangel] It has been said that it is the other way around, that you have manipulated the Armed Forces. Former President Fernando Belaunde Terry stated the Peruvian Armed Forces should wrap themselves in the national flag. Some think this might be interpreted to mean that the Armed Forces should follow Fujimori's principles.

[Fujimori] Well, I think there is a great difference between the exercise of the Armed Forces High Command and the command exercised by the previous presidents. I exercise this command with all my powers. The other presidents probably have not exercised this power or understood the role of the Armed Forces. To me, the Armed Forces are part of the state and play a fundamental role in the country's development, particularly now that we are thinking of external wars. The objectives that the government, the Peruvian people, and the Armed Forces are pursuing together are fundamental. The effect of this relationship is already being observed in many aspects.

[Rangel] We have talked about fears. Let us now talk about suspicions. For example, it is said that you are a clever manipulator and that you will eventually establish a dictatorship in Peru.

[Fujimori] People can speculate about everything, but facts deny any type of speculation. Some media have issued virulent criticism and speculated in a radical way to insult my government but, I repeat, circumstances are quite different. Look at the freedom prevailing in the streets. Turn on your television set and you will see the most open debates. In fact, the opposition which criticizes so much is actually afraid of one thing: The possible establishment of true democracy because this would mean the loss of privileges, sinecures, benefits, and—for many—the bribes they have enjoyed for such a long time. This is their great fear and their reaction is quite natural.

[Rangel] You have never been a democrat. In fact, I heard a former congressional member speak on television this morning. He said you had never worked hard for democracy and, consequently, you are a person who availed himself of the mechanisms of democracy to disrupt democracy.

[Fujimori] Well... [pauses] but all the positions I have assumed have been fully democratic according to a traditional framework, except for this transitory period which, I repeat, will lead us to a true democracy. I have heard the opposition's criticism and I have seen it adopt positions that are completely antidemocratic. They are doing exactly the opposite.

[Rangel] Two things. During our conversation you have invoked the people on several occasions. I perceive what

is almost a mythical fervor in that invocation. What, exactly, do the people mean to you?

[Fujimori] That is not so easily explained—but, the people have a political opinion, which a responsible politician must heed. That is, in a certain way, the model I am establishing here in Peru.

[Rangel] Is it the people in an abstract way or the organized people?

[Fujimori] Obviously, the people are not organized right now, except at the local level, but I perceive the people as a national organization.

[Rangel] How do you conceive democracy? Recently... [pauses] during your address to the Peruvian people—we will talk about that address later on—you mentioned, you quoted a prominent Venezuelan writer, Arturo Uslar Pietri; and you talked about weak democracy, empty democracy.

[Fujimori] Empty.

[Rangel] Right. What does President Fujimori think about democracy?

[Fujimori] Well, to me, democracy is the system that permits the people to participate in the government. This participation, however, has not occurred in Peru. Rather, dictatorships of the powerful have ruled the country. Attempts have been made to portray these dictatorships of the highest order as democracies.

[Rangel] Mr. President, your economic plan, which is much more severe than the one proposed by Mario Vargas Llosa during the campaign, is very similar to Perez' economic plan. Your popularity level, however, is different from that of the Venezuelan president. While you are riding the waves, he is defeated and very depressed. To what do you attribute this situation?

[Fujimori] I do not wish to make comparisons with a friendly country. I would rather make my own interpretation. Here in Peru, there is a whole economic and political modernization program in every aspect. I mean modernization of our economy and our policy, as well. The people sense the Peruvian economy is being handled honestly and this is an austere administration. The people feel a great change, that corruption is being eliminated, that the state resources, albeit scarce, are being used at their maximum efficiency. The man on the street feels that, although he has had to tighten his belt, there is a brighter outlook ahead. We think, not only about immediate solutions, but about the future of his family and that of his country. The country has made a radical change, precisely because of the seriousness of our economic policy.

[Rangel] That is your version, which is respected, but nevertheless it is your version. There is another version, in the sense that you are a very shrewd person who at all times was able to unload responsibilities on the judicial and legislative branches. This enabled you to protect yourself from any generalized discredit. Was this a deliberate maneuver, or was it simply what you pointed out in the beginning?

[Fujimori] The crisis should not only be blamed on these two institutions, but also on the government administration. The effects of the crisis are being felt through terrorism, drug trafficking, and the foreign debt. I have taken full responsibility for the economic program, and I am sure that in forthcoming years, the results will speak for themselves. Criticism and doubts exist. Only yesterday the parliament was described as pachydermatous and sluggish. These criticisms are accurate. Why is it that a head of state cannot make a true evaluation, regardless of whether it is severe or not? Precisely what we are looking for is to take the appropriate measures. That is what I have done in some on my speeches. Some of my speeches are very well known. For example, I have spoken about Peru's institutional crisis, a crisis which I believe is not indigenous only to Peru but to all Latin American countries. It is the institutional crisis we must remedy. To amend this crisis we must make an objective evaluation.

[Rangel] By the way ...

[Fujimori, interrupting] From the beginning, in no way did I intend to go as far as I did on 5 April.

[Rangel] By the way, with respect to the zoological term you used, I overheard one of your critics say this morning that in the same way you compared the legislative branch with a pachyderm, he compared the executive branch with a tortoise. Has Peruvian politics reached this comparison stage?

[Fujimori] That is very funny. I had not heard that criticism. It is the Peruvian people who evaluate the validity of these descriptions. With respect to the tortoise description, I do not think it will stick.

[Rangel] That is interesting. There is another version regarding what we have discussed about the economic policy. It is the version which says that the economic policy is incompatible with a representative democracy and that the policy of economic packages and strong readjustments is incompatible with a representative democratic system. It is said that the 5 April coup, the self-styled coup in Peru, proves this because you had to implement those measures to overcome the situation. The same thing occurred on 4 February in Venezuela. Hence, it is surmised that the military rebellion was carried out against President Perez' economic policy. Can you confirm the truth about the version which says that democracy is incompatible with economic readjustments and economic packages?

[Fujimori] I believe this appreciation is unjustified although this type of economic program has been implemented in several countries which have a somewhat strict political system. This does not rule out the possibility of doing it in a democracy. I must again clarify something, Mr. Rangel. We had no democracy here. No

system or program—except one which endorses mercantilism, bureaucratism, statism, and all the other words ending in ism—can operate like this.

[Rangel] What did you have then? There was a legislative branch, an executive branch, and a judicial branch; you had elections.

[Fujimori] But certain groups and leaders were manipulating things so that democracy only existed in name.

[Rangel] Is not Alberto Fujimori manipulating the situation now?

[Fujimori] Yes, for a transitory period, precisely to lead Peru to a democracy that will allow for the implementation of a national reconstruction program.

[Rangel] The social crisis in Peru is evident. What has President Alberto Fujimori done for the poor in Peru?

[Fujimori] First of all, we had to adopt macro-economic measures and try to control the inflation, the hyperinflation—approximately 2,500 to 3,000 percent—and drastically reduce it to approximately 100 percent in the first phase. We expect to lower it to 40 or 50 percent later. The first goal is to reduce inflation so it does not affect the poorest sectors. Second, we had to improve the economy as part of our macro-economic policy because we could not postpone the solution of problems which afflict the most needy. We are now collecting revenues, both internal and external, to use them in social projects.

[Rangel] That macro-economic policy has caused more poverty in Venezuela—I must refer to the country where I live—and it has worsened social conflicts. What have been its effects in Peru?

[Fujimori] Well, in Peru it has revealed the true situation of the country's economy. In other words, following a government which squandered in excess of $1 billion—it had gotten the state into debt through its public enterprises and it had spent incredibly high amounts of non-allocated funds. On 1 August.... [pauses] On 8 August we faced a crude reality. We realized the kind of crisis we had inherited. It is like when a family squanders all its savings, sells all its belongings, and gets into debt, so there comes a time when it does not even have access to credit. That was our situation and we realized we had to tighten our belts.

[Rangel] Mr. President, the drug trafficking issue is very important in the world nowadays. Peru is also important in this regard.

[Fujimori] It is the world's largest coca leaf producer.

[Rangel] Exactly. Therefore, I would like to know President Fujimori's views on the drug trafficking issue. Let me tell you something else. The struggle against drug trafficking can result in yielding part of the country's sovereignty to contribute to that struggle. Would your government be willing to make those concessions in the area of sovereignty?

Finally, several accusations have been made against Mr. Vladimori Montesinos, one of your advisers. I was even surprised at the reportage by the U.S. newspaper THE MIAMI HERALD on the case of Montesinos. This newspaper connected Mr. Montesinos to drug trafficking activities.

I think it would be interesting if you would explain these three aspects.

[Fujimori] Concerning the issue of sovereignty, that is a proposal that was left up in the air at the San Antonio meeting and at the previous meeting in Quito. The position of Peru, and my personal view, is not to accept that sort of meddling. I have been very clear about it. We are determined to fight drug trafficking using all means of international cooperation. Peru has offered to do that at international forums. Naturally, we will not use the traditional methods of simply repressing 250,000 peasants in Peru who grow coca leaves because of the circumstances.

Peru's proposal is not to fight against these poor peasants but to incorporate them in the struggle against drug trafficking. Obviously, that requires an alternative proposal.

The first thing we have established—and it has been accepted by the U.S. Government—is that the peasants are not to be considered criminals. Here in Peru, we no longer take the repressive military or police measures adopted months ago. Instead, we are trying to win over the peasants to counter drug trafficking.

[Rangel] What is your conception of the struggle against drug trafficking?

[Fujimori] I believe it is fundamental that we counterbalance the illegal growth of coca leaves with development. Peru has expressed that several times. I have personally conducted an international campaign, visiting various heads of state and presidents in Asia, America, and Europe, to develop a strategy that will allow us to reduce the supply in the production of coca leaves.

Many things have been said not only about Dr. Montesinos, but also about other people who at some point have been associated with my government. There is an explanation for that.

Not everything that is published in the media is true, particularly regarding Peru and Latin America, where there are so many interests at stake.

There was a plan to weaken my government, to challenge my stand, and to deprive me of my popularity, which, in all modesty, is very high. However, that could not be done by directly attacking the president, so those around me had to be weakened. One or two of my advisers have been attacked, one of my brothers has been attacked. It has been done in various ways. It is a campaign that is totally unfounded. I am not really very worried about that.

Regarding Dr. Montesinos, first there was an attempt to show that he was an adviser on narcotics trafficking, and second, that he was linked to narcotics trafficking. That campaign is entirely unfounded. I have said here in the country that if all of those things are true, then a suit should be filed. It would be profoundly irresponsible not to do otherwise. It would amount to being an accomplice, particularly if the accusations are against persons who have been engaged in legislative or judiciary functions. These suits have never been filed, but it could still be done. However, that is all part of a defamation campaign that is entirely false. Mr. Montesinos is an official of the intelligence services. He has made it his career, and that is what he does.

[Rangel] Let us talk a little about Shining Path, which is a very important topic in Latin America, particularly in Peru. What lies ahead in the struggle against Shining Path?

[Fujimori] I have said that Shining Path will be defeated by 1995. Unfortunately, it will take three or four years to defeat this terrorist movement. However, that is to be expected because the group was allowed to grow unchecked during the administrations of former Presidents Fernando Belaunde Terry and Alan Garcia Perez. There was no strategy to control it. Everybody here knows the Shining Path grew freely during Mr. Belaunde Terry's second term. The government at that time failed to take timely precautionary measures to control them. During the Garcia Perez administration, things were truly awful. There was no strategy.

I have been criticized for that, for not having a strategy. I have proved I have one. To achieve it, we issued a set of legislative decrees less than six months ago. It included a total strategy to fight terrorism. I will explain briefly to the Venezuelan public what we have done in the past 20 months. When I took office, most of the rural areas, the Andes region, were infiltrated, if not controlled, by Shining Path. We first focused our work on those areas.

Under my instructions, the Armed Forces and police corps began to change their attitude regarding towns infiltrated by Shining Path. That change of attitude meant instead of suspecting that everybody belonged to Shining Path, we had to believe the local people were suffering the onslaught of Shining Path. The first objective was to win the people over, just as it was with the war on drugs, as I explained to you. The way to do it is by first stopping the indiscriminate repression against the people. Then, we introduced civic programs and basic projects. Regardless of their nature, those projects meant drawing closer to the people.

[Rangel] Allow me to interrupt you. Why did the previous government fail do something so obvious?

[Fujimori] I cannot explain it. There was no concern about the matter. Mr. Belaunde Terry's second government totally neglected the topic. Continuing with what I was saying, we began to use peasant organizations, which are called self-defense patrols. We armed them. We handed out rifles in every hamlet and in towns that Shining Path had infiltrated. The people themselves rejected the terrorist group with great success. There are still pockets, but we are working hard. That is the first point.

Second, we had to go to the universities where Shining Path recruited their intellectual and leadership cadres. A large number of universities were controlled by Shining Path. The university dining halls were run by the so-called users committees, which were merely Shining Path front groups. The committees would receive payments from university authorities supposedly to defray the costs of the dining halls. However, part of the money was spent on the dining halls, and part was used to finance terrorist actions. The dining halls of those universities were used to recruit unsuspecting young students.

I personally entered the universities unarmed, along with the Army. We brought paint, brushes, computers, and books. That way, we began to win over the university community, chiefly the young students. They regained confidence in their state and Armed Forces, and we are working together to eradicate Shining Path from the universities. It was there in those centers of learning where attacks were planned. That is the second point.

The third point is the great bastion. It was as difficult as controlling the universities regarding matters of terrorism. Here I mean the jails. For years jails were nothing but indoctrination and training centers for Shining Path. No authority ever tried to control them. We are regaining each of the jails and not letting them turn into—I repeat—graduate centers for terrorism. We are not allowing them to be used to plan terrorist acts.

On the international front, I have worked hard and have been totally frank. I have openly criticized the international organizations that did not condemn the crimes committed by Shining Path, only the human rights violations committed by the Peruvian state, which do take place and are serious. I do not oppose the fact that they continue to criticize, but I have demanded that these international organizations, which claim to defend human rights, also make public the horrible crimes committed by Shining Path. For example, they should denounce the use of children to detect bombs and the murders of neighborhood leaders, most of them women. I think we are making progress in that respect. The stance the OAS adopted at the Bahamas meeting is a very encouraging signal. We have taken steps, but those steps are not the whole picture. Our work must be comprehensive in the huge shantytowns where poverty is extreme. We must also win the people over by implementing social development projects. We must have an arduous intelligence plan. We must identify the subversive leaders and strike blows to destroy them at the highest levels. We have made progress; I would say a great deal. That progress must not be assessed solely on

criminal attacks, murders, and amount of kilos of explosives placed in certain areas, which is something I have criticized. The assessment of this war on terrorism is to be done based on the number of people who join the terrorists. The number of recruits is dwindling. We are now seeing a lack of orientation.

They lack a strategy and are simply carrying out terrorist actions. They have lost the political and ideological meaning with which Shining Path was formed.

[Rangel] Mr. President, let us summarize the situation of Shining Path. Some have established a link between the massacre that took place in the El Fronton Jail during Alan Garcia's government and what happened at the Castro Castro Prison during your administration. It is said that human rights were violated in these actions as well as in other cases. The OAS Human Rights Commission, which is chaired by a Venezuelan, has been very apprehensive about this issue, and this has been criticized here in Peru. What do you have to say to that?

[Fujimori] The discussion in The Bahamas is indicative of how this issue was handled by the commission. One cannot compare what happened at El Fronton in 1987 with the action to take over control of the Castro Castro Prison during my government. I would like to ask any citizen of the world and any ruler: What would you do if you had this problem of terrorism in your country. What would you do if the terrorist leaders controlled the prisons, and the state did nothing while the terrorists committed the horrible crimes that have resulted in 22,000 deaths? Does the Peruvian state not have the right to regain control of prisons? Does Peru not have the right to establish legislation similar to that in the European countries, which have experienced this disgrace? Why? That is what we are doing, and it is all being done within the framework of protecting human rights. We want to apply here what is being implemented in other countries. That is the actual situation. I hope the countries criticizing us will never experience this type of problem.

[Rangel] Mr. President: You have very much criticized the institution of political parties. You even speak of a partycracy [partidocracia]. We, in Venezuela, can understand that language and that criticism. It seems that there is truly a worldwide deterioration of political parties, as institutions. That is particularly true in our region. Now, it is difficult for democracy to operate without political parties. Just as political parties can take democracy to the grave, it is almost impossible for democracy to operate without political parties. How do you see a solution to this contradiction, to this difficult problem we have at this time?

[Fujimori] The solution is to attack the root of the evil. There is a lack of democracy in our countries precisely among the political parties. I do not know exactly how it is in your country, but here in Peru, political parties are not democratic. If the political parties are part of democratic life, and if they are not sufficiently democratic, as I said in The Bahamas, these political parties are simply killing democracy.

[Rangel] But what can be done with them? Should we dissolve them, suppress them, or establish a system so they can be renewed?

[Fujimori] Well, there are some natural mechanisms for regulating their activities. Nonetheless, this will take some time.

[Rangel] But do you believe in a type of political party that is different from the ones that operate today?

[Fujimori] I do not believe in a party that is manipulated by its leadership. There is nothing democratic about that. The criticism is aimed at them.

[Rangel] But how can we stop a party from being manipulated?

[Fujimori] There are several models. I do not want to go into details, but I was going to go into the natural process of reorganizing the political parties. I think many Latin American countries are going to be punished in the elections when the people do not support those parties that are acting in an antidemocratic manner.

It has happened in Peru, in a very visible manner, and it is happening now. Just imagine that all of the active political parties in Peru barely have the support of 10 percent of the population, while the rest are independent and support the government. What is happening? The rank and file are simply rejecting the manipulation of political parties.

[Rangel] It would seem as if the alternative is the independent candidate, the independent formula. However, that could also represent a trap, because an independent person can only become corrupt and incapable. I do not know, but it seems to me there must be something else. What can a man like Alberto Fujimori—who become president of the republic and who is an independent who criticizes the political parties—say about this? Can he say something that will help others analyze this phenomenon?

[Fujimori] I could say that I have a serious responsibility. I would like to tell the Peruvians—but not our Latin American friends—that a movement of this nature could change the situation of our country. I am taking all precautions so that we will be successful.

Now, a question arises. Tell me why Peru and Venezuela continue to experience crises, poverty, and difficulties if we have the best natural resources in the world? Peru is one of the richest mining countries in the world. It ranks first in fishing resources. It has a population that is willing to make progress with its work and imagination, so why is it submerged in such poverty? Why can it not be like Taiwan, Malaysia, or South Korea? Is there something that has prevented us from making progress?

I feel that one of the basic factors is a political system which is inefficient, cumbersome, and corrupt. It is a system that has worked for the sake of the vested interests of groups, of the party leaderships, and not for the sake of national interests. If all of the resources of a country such as Peru were to be channeled to the efforts of national reconstruction, the country would be in better condition.

[Rangel] What role does corruption play in this process? We, in Venezuela, have the impression that corruption has become a state within the state, as if it has a life of its own.

[Fujimori] That is correct. Corruption has its own hidden life. There is evidence that it exists. Millions of government dollars have been used for other purposes. Regrettably, when the trials begin, no one is convicted. This must be stopped at the root. At least, this is what I will do here in Peru. I am doing this. I will not step back on this.

[Rangel] Why do you think this happens? Why impunity? Many times impunity is worse than the crime.

[Fujimori] One of the causes of this is precisely partycracy.

[Rangel] Is that where the problem lies?

[Fujimori] For God's sake, Mr. Rangel. The judicial branch used to be controlled by the ruling parties. Each party appointed its own supporters. In other words, the system was really corrupt.

[Rangel] Is there a close relationship between partycracy and corruption?

[Fujimori] This is obvious. It does not require further explanation. It would be enough to see the facts.

[Rangel] Mr. President, I arrived in Peru while many important events were taking place. The great singer Juan Luis Guerra arrived in Peru; former President Alan Garcia left the country; you delivered an address to the Peruvian people; and former President Fernando Belaunde Terry, also an opposition leader, held a rally. I want to ask you about former President Alan Garcia. We are under the impression that he is a political refugee. We believe that he sought asylum because he feared for his personal safety. In your address to the Peruvian people, you stated that no one was persecuted here. You said that perhaps some people may feel persecuted by their conscience.

[Fujimori] Not only that. Here we do not persecute people for their ideas. Someone is persecuted after it has been demonstrated that an irregularity has been perpetrated. But in the case of Mr. Alan Garcia, there was no such thing as persecution.

[Rangel] Why did he leave then?

[Fujimori] Mr. Rangel, allow me to change the subject, because I believe we did not finish discussing the previous point.

[Rangel] Of course. Go ahead.

[Fujimori] I saw that a network of corruption existed here in Peru and that it was difficult to break that network—which encompassed the executive branch, the parliament, the judiciary branch, the entire system, and some mercantilist groups—by attacking only one its elements. We had to eliminate this network of corruption from the roots. This is what I have done and, I repeat, I do not regret it.

We are now gradually destroying all these evils. We are destroying all the malignant cells. We have made mistakes on three of four occasions, but we have made corrections. I think that performing surgery is important. At least in the case of Peru, there was no alternative. We had to perform a radical surgery.

Going back to the issue...

[Rangel, interrupting] Mr. President, allow me to play devil's advocate. Why did you say that the origin of corruption was in the legislative and judiciary branches, and not the executive branch?

[Fujimori] No. I also said there was corruption in the executive branch. The state-owned companies were a source of corruption. For instance, the items produced by these companies sold their revenues, which were immediately spent, in the futures market. Also, money deposited by the BCR [Central Reserve Bank], which earned a high commission estimated at $3 million during the previous administration, vanished into thin air.

[Rangel] Have you adopted measures regarding the executive branch?

[Fujimori] At the executive branch level, we have reduced the size of the government and appointed qualified and honest individuals. Naturally, if we find any hint of corruption or dishonesty, we will immediately fire the individuals involved.

[Rangel] I have also received reports of corruption within the Armed Forces.

[Fujimori] There are no grounds for that. There may have been corruption in Alto Hualaga, in the coca growing area, but we have corrected the cases of corruption that have existed.

[Rangel] Returning to the case of Mr. Alan Garcia. Did he leave because he wanted to or was there really any...

[Fujimori, interrupting] I do not really know what he thinks. I said it in my speech last night. He tried to return to the time of Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, a time of heroism and idealism. The people do not believe him. Nobody listens to him. I do not think anybody listens to him abroad, [chuckles] because people know him.

[Rangel] You had a timetable to reinstate democracy in Peru. It was to begin with a plebiscite in July. You changed that program...

[Fujimori, interrupting] The timetable.

[Rangel] The timetable. Did you change it because of pressure from the OAS or did you really become convinced that changes were in order?

[Fujimori] The popular referendum for 5 July will not be held. As I clearly stated in my speech, the referendum must become an institutional process. It may even be applied to establish the framework with which the Democratic Constitutent Congress [CCD] will work. The Peruvian state, therefore, is sovereign in this respect. It may summon at some time this popular referendum on topics of national interest before the CCD and afterward as many times as necessary. Once the constitution is approved by the CCD, it will be submitted to a popular referendum.

I have not changed the basic elements of this system. I have made some changes in terms of form and dates. There has been no step backward on the essentials. Let us look at the situation. Have I reopened or am I prepared to reopen the pachydermatous Congress? No way. Am I ready to reinstate the judges I dismissed during this period of reorganization? No. All the reforms taking place are being consolidated. There is no turning back to 4 April. This situation has also become consolidated. There have been no substantive changes.

I have not taken a step backward regarding the participation of the people. For me, and I think for the Peruvian people as well, the popular referendum is basic. Let us assume that the CCD sneaks in some article that is not advisable for the country. I am certain the people will reject it in the appropriate referendum. These concepts remain unchanged. Peru has fully sovereign rights to remain that way. Why can Peru not have an authentic democracy as European countries or Japan have? Is it that we must always live in an undemocratic system, which is what we have had.

[Rangel] Do you feel the decision by the people is more important than an outdated legal structure? It is clear you have a special interest in highlighting the participation of the people.

[Fujimori] What is important is an efficient and adequate system. The outdated legal structure must be thrown away as soon as possible. Why must we suffer from these ills. Let us decide once and for all. That is what I told the people, and they have supported me.

[Rangel] This point, which you mentioned in your address to Peruvians, is very important for us in Venezuela. This is why I am saying this. We had a coup attempt on 4 February. Four months later no major changes have been adopted. The people are questioning this a great deal.

[Fujimori] In that respect, we, or at least I, acted very pragmatically. We did not take minor or secondary aspects into consideration.

[Rangel] This is what I wanted to tell you. You called the CCD elections for 18 October. This is a specific thing. It is important. You also talked of a rule banning the members of the CCD from being reelected in two subsequent periods. What was the purpose of that decision?

[Fujimori] In the last case, which you mentioned, the idea is to keep special interests from becoming embedded in the new constitution. Another purpose is to avoid the entrenchment of political leaders, something that I have criticized. [chuckles] Those participating in the CCD will be truly committed to the objectives of the nation and not interested in their own political careers.

[Rangel] How many people will be in the CCD?

[Fujimori] Eighty persons.

[Rangel] Eighty persons...

[Fujimori, interrupting] One third of what the previous Congress had. We were fed up with 240 congressmen.

[Rangel] Have you been under any kind of pressure from U.S. President George Bush regarding this process? Or from Japan?

[Fujimori] Look at this. On the essentials, Peru has not taken a single step backward. My presence in The Bahamas to explain the scope of my plan had a positive impact. There were no sanctions on Peru of any kind. There have been some setbacks, of course. This situation, however, shows that we are handling things in a serious manner, and we have international understanding. Concerning the friendly countries — particularly the United States and Japan, which are coleaders in this group to financially salvage the Peruvian economy—they voiced their respective stands regarding an alleged scheme that was not the true situation. They believed that this was a military coup, or a civil-military coup, or that we were planning to establish a dictatorship. However, once our goals and work plans were explained, we received understanding from them.

[Rangel] Mr. President, you do understand the personal risks you are taking, do you not?

[Fujimori] Obviously, these are tremendous risks. I am aware of that, but I am struggling for Peru.

[Rangel] Are you afraid of death?

[Fujimori] No, not at all.

[Rangel] What do you think about death?

[Fujimori] It is a natural or artificial process, as the case may be, but a man must do the best he can. As the president of Peru, I am going to do the best I can.

[Rangel] Do you get angry when you are called El Chino [The Chinese]?

[Fujimori] No, on the contrary. To make it even nicer, I call myself El Chinito [The Little Chinese]. [Both laugh]

[Rangel] You have a 12-year old son who is called the deputy foreign minister.

[Fujimori] Well, he is very popular.

[Rangel] Like you?

[Fujimori] Yes, I guess he is the third most popular person. [Both laugh]

[Rangel] El Chinito is the second most popular then?

[Fujimori] Well, yes. Some of the media have criticized my son because he attends some political events and rallies. He has not delivered any speeches yet. He is not into that yet. In addition, he accompanies me on my trips abroad. He is part of the political picture.

[Rangel] What advice would you give to Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez?

[Fujimori] Without being specific, I would tell the rulers of the world that it is necessary and imperative to listen to the people's demands and that one cannot have a democracy without the people. Democracy, specifically in Latin America, is experiencing a crisis because it has isolated itself from the people.

[Rangel] When in your life did you feel you could become president of Peru. What motivated you to run for president?

[Fujimori] When? I thought about it just nine months before the elections.

[Rangel] You had never thought of it before then?

[Fujimori] Never before. What was your other question?

[Rangel] I asked you what prompted you to run for president.

[Fujimori] It was a need to change Peru, to struggle against all evil, and to tell the truth about those petty and corrupt politicians who had taken advantage of Peru. I wanted to change the course of my country and lead it to progress. To that effect, I am a determined man.

[Rangel] Was the fact that you are of Japanese descent a handicap? Was it negative or positive?

[Fujimori] Actually it did not have a negative or positive effect. In Peru, there is total ethnic and cultural integration. As a Japanese descendent, I feel I have always been part of Peruvian society.

[Rangel] What do you feel is the greatest value of Japanese culture?

[Fujimori] I believe that is what we commented on in the beginning of the interview: discipline.

[Rangel] And how about Peruvian culture?

[Fujimori] Inca tradition does not permit stealing and it promotes hard work.

[Rangel] To conclude, and out of protocol: What message would you send the Venezuelan people?

[Fujimori] I think Venezuela has a great future. It has the resources to become a great power in Latin America and the world. One should never lose hope. People know how to get ahead. They are wise. To that effect, I am sure the Venezuelan people are wise. I send my best wishes and my love to the friendly Venezuelan people.

[Rangel] Surely, you will be interested in the following: The Venezuelan Government's break with Peru was criticized unanimously. It was very unpopular. What was your reaction when you learned about that break?

[Fujimori] I remained calm and tranquil, because I knew that was the personal decision of its ruler, who does not have the support of the Venezuelan people. The ties of friendship between our two peoples remain unchanged; they remain as they have always been.

[Rangel] Thank you, Mr. President.

[Fujimori] Thank you for this opportunity.

[Rangel] I also thank you on behalf of the Venezuelan people, who will watch this interview with great interest.

Government Ready To Talk With Political Groups

PA1506161192 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] The government is prepared to talk with the political parties prior to its meetings with the social organizations that have registered for the national dialogue. This has been confirmed by President Alberto Fujimori, who also announced the reinitiation of U.S. humanitarian aid of $25 million. He also spoke about the possibility of the Constituent Congress elections being postponed. He made these statements on returning from Rio de Janeiro.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr. President, you held an important meeting with Bernard Aronson, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs. What did you discuss with him?

[Fujimori] We discussed Peru's bilateral relations with the United States in a very general manner. We discussed aspects of renewing U.S. aid, so-called humanitarian aid, with a food donation worth approximately $25 million. We also discussed U.S. support through international organizations. This is important. Mr. Aronson has demonstrated concern over the process for calling congressional elections.

He said that clear rules are necessary. No rules have been established yet. We have just set a date for the elections to satisfy OAS requests. The rules will be announced,

based on suggestions from various sectors, including those of the political parties and the people through the mechanisms I have already reported on. This is, in general terms, the essence of the talks with Mr. Aronson. We also discussed the need to intensify the struggle against drug trafficking and increase control over municipal airports. [Words indistinct] are two of the important airports about which they are most concerned. We are working on this. Unfortunately, we no longer have U.S. radar. They were not withdrawn because of the 5 April action. That decision was made prior to that date.

[Reporter] Did you discuss [words indistinct]?

[Fujimori] We have insisted very much on this. The truth is that this provides mutual benefits. I hope that the radar will be reinstalled. We get no benefit from our Tucano airplane fleet there if we do not have radar support.

[Reporter] Mr. President, with regard to the democratic Constituent Congress, OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares commented on the interview he granted recently by saying that it would be suitable to postpone the elections until after 18 October, not to move them ahead, because the electoral process must be prepared. This means we should start thinking about the elections taking place sometime after 18 October.

[Fujimori] I fully agree with this. I am happy to see that Mr. Baena himself made this suggestion. The difficulties being faced at the National Election Board level—a lack of a current census, the alleged existence of forged electoral registry books, etc.—difficulties to which I have referred in the past, would present hurdles in holding the elections.

We agree that these elections should be postponed. We have not established a date yet. There are some suggestions, but in no way can they [words indistinct] seven or 10 days [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Bomb Explodes Near Government Palace in Lima

PA1606140192 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Report by Cesar Lengua in Lima]

[Text] The report about a car bomb, which was reportedly left near the [name indistinct] Hall in La Victoria District, was a false alarm, but resulted in the mobilization of the police. What actually exploded was a package-bomb left at the intersection of Jiron Ica and Jiron Rufino Torrico in downtown Lima, near the municipal theater.

The terrorist attack occurred a few minutes ago at a real estate office, barely one week after the authorities enforced traffic restrictions and barely two hours after the traffic restrictions ended. The explosion occurred when people were on their way to work.

The explosion nearly killed Albino Arenas Osorio, who works as watchman at the Terrenos de Pro real estate office, which is located a few blocks from the Government Palace.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] I was coming in this direction and I saw something. I bent down and saw it was a briefcase. I grabbed it and tried to throw it as far as I could. I grabbed it again and threw it farther. That is all I did.

[Unidentified reporter] Did you see anyone?

[Unidentified speaker] I ran to warn my family. I told them: Look out, this is surely a bomb. That is all I did, sir.

[Reporter] Have there been any threats?

[Unidentified speaker] Yes, anonymous letters have been received, but no direct threats. [end recording]

The explosion of approximately 1 kg of [word indistinct] destroyed furniture in the office and several windows in the area.

Poll Shows Majority Supports Fujimori, Coup

PA1606044392 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Many people are asking what has happened to President Alberto Fujimori's popularity rating. Do the people continue to support the government, or have they turned their back on it as the opposition predicted? That is just one of the many things this exclusive poll tells us. It was carried out on 5 through 7 June, exactly two months after the break in democracy, in the Lima metropolitan area. The poll interviewed 500 adults and has a 5 percent margin of error. Let us see the results.

Believe it or not, 65 out of every 100 people interviewed approve of the coup. Approval is as high as 70 percent among middle class adults and young adults. That is a three to one approval ratio. Government support is even higher: 69 percent to 20 percent. A 75-percent majority of middle class adults and young adults support the coup. The level of support increases to 76 percent when dealing specifically with President Fujimori. The more favorable groups—adults and young adults of the middle class—give him an unprecedented 83 percent approval rating.

The opposition, on the other hand, looks bad. It received an overall 69-percent disapproval vote. Among upper class adults and young adults, the opposition was disapproved of by 78 percent and 75 percent, respectively. And what happened to Vice President Maximo San Roman? Perhaps it would be better not to mention the 81 percent disapproval rating he received overall—87 percent for middle class, and 84 percent for young adults.

Regarding the president's men, Oscar de la Puente, president of the Council of Ministers, inspires more approval than disapproval—39 percent—but there were many who preferred not to comment. Economy and Finance Minister Carlos Bologna has a better image, as he was approved of by 62 percent. His supporters in the upper classes total 81 percent, which is better that Fujimori's rating in the same socioeconomic group. It was even more surprising to find that the minister has absolute support at the low income level D. Richard Webb, who is writing the history of the World Bank, ought to include that statistic.

We are sorry to report to Mayor Belmont that he is slightly lower than the floating line, as he received a 44-percent disapproval rating and a 43-percent approval rating. For what it is worth, he was approved by 51 percent of middle class Peruvians, and he got a passing grade from the lower middle class.

When no one was even dreaming of catching Victor Polay, the government's antiterrorism policy was the only one to receive an overall disapproval rating of 61 percent. That was higher in class A. It is possible that opinions may have changed. There have been many coincidences in the public's perception of official policy. The economic policy, for one, was given 63-percent approval—65 percent among upper class adults who must pay the new property tax—versus 36 percent disapproval.

Of those interviewed, 79 out every 100 agree with a unicameral constituent congress; 74 percent say it should have 80 members; 72 percent say they should have legislative powers; 69 percent believe it should supervise the government; and 81 percent want its members to be elected directly. On the issue of electing members of the constituent congress to the parliament, public opinion is divided. A free system is supported by 28 percent. That same response was given to the issue of reelecting the president: 36 percent believe reelection should be allowed; 24 percent support the current system; and 9 percent support a two-term limit.

When asked about the date for the election of constituent assembly members, in light of the Lord of Miracles festivities, 44 percent believe the election should be postponed; 29 percent believe it should be earlier; and 23 percent said it should take place on 18 October.

Before American Popular Revolutionary Alliance leader Alan Garcia left the country, the survey asked if people would vote for him if he ran for president. Three out of every 100 people said they would vote for him, four said they might, four said they probably would not, and 85 percent said they would definitely not give him their vote. Summarizing the above, we find that 7 favor Garcia, and 89 are against him. There are probably those who would ask if the exiled Garcia still has that 7 percent potential.

Be that as it may, 74 percent of those polled believe that Garcia cannot become the president of Peru for a second time; 15 percent believe he can. When is the next question: 4 percent say 1995, 6 percent say the year 2000, and three think it would be even later than that.

Polls Measure Pessimism, Policy Disapproval

PA1606153892 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Here are the results of one of the latest polls carried out between 5 and 7 June in Lima.

Television viewers, how do you view your family's economic situation? Sixty-four out of every 100 people polled said it is average, 33 said it is bad, and only three said it is good. Regarding the country's economic situation, 68 believe it is bad, 30 believe it is average, and only one said it is good. Apparently, nobody is having a good time in this economic situation.

Six months ago, 51 percent of the people polled said their family's economic situation had not changed, and 33 percent said it was worse. At that time, only 15 percent thought the country's economic situation in the past was better, 41 percent said the situation had not changed, and 42 percent said it was worse.

Be that as it may, optimism never dies. The 29 percent who anticipate an improvement in the family's economic situation amount to approximately the same number as those who believe the situation has not changed, 30 percent. The pessimists, however, are in a minority; they only amount to 17 percent. In regard to the country's economic perspective, optimism is still winning. The recent poll shows that 29 percent of the people believe the situation will be better in six months, 36 percent believe it will be the same, and 19 percent believe the situation will be worse. One out of four did not give an answer to this question.

How do the people polled view Peru? The poll results show that 44 percent believe it is bogged down, 26 percent say it is making progress, and 24 percent believe it is getting worse. However, 49 percent of the people polled believe Peru will have better living conditions in 20 years. May God hear them.

The poll, naturally, included questions on the popular topics of taxes and tax evasion. The results were that 74 percent of the people believe the government's measures are appropriate, 46 percent declare they would accuse a friend who is evading his tax payments, and 62 percent would do the same if they knew a firm was evading taxes. Where would they present their charges? Twenty-nine percent said they would go to the Sunat [National Superintendency of Tax Administration.]

Fifty-four percent of Lima residents are of the opinion that street vendors evade taxes more than regular businessmen. Also, 77 of each 100 people polled said they would rather receive a legal invoice and pay the correct amount for their purchase. Only 17 percent said they prefer to buy at reduced prices even if they do not get an

invoice. This question is a strictly moral one. Forty- two percent of the people polled believe there is a small probability and 19 percent believe there is hardly any probability that they will be asked for an invoice. In other words, most people believe Sunat's work is basically inoffensive.

Seventy-three percent of this public believes in privatization. Sixty-three percent believe in the privatization of strategic firms, and many people include petroleum and mining enterprises, which they believe have an uncertain future. However, 31 percent of the people polled believe in privatization under state supervision.

On the topic of subversion, 89 percent of the people polled believe it is not justified. What stands out in this poll is that 9 percent of the polled Lima residents do justify subversion, and this shows that the approval rate could be much higher in the rest of the country.

The polls indicate a most remarkable situation. Peru continues to be a peaceful nation after 12 years of armed struggle because 55 percent of the people agree with dialogue with the guerrillas, and 95 percent want a national peace agreement. However, 67 percent of the people favor the death penalty for terrorists, 73 percent agree that anonymous courts should be the ones to try them, 70 percent endorse the payment of monetary compensation to informers, and 67 percent would give amnesty to those who leave the guerrilla ranks.

The poll was taken many days prior to the recent severe terrorist attacks in the country and the arrest of Victor Polay, the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement leader. The poll reflected pessimism and an unambiguous disagreement with official policy.

On terrorism, 46 percent of the people polled believe it will increase, only 17 percent that it will decrease, and 25 percent believe it will continue the same. Perhaps, this is why 68 percent of the people favor getting foreign specialized counsel to counter terrorism.

Uruguay

Declaration on Relations With Bulgaria Released

PY1606224492 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 12 Jun 92 p 9

[Text] The Uruguayan and Bulgarian Governments on 11 June decided to accelerate bilateral economic relations. They also rejected terrorism by stating that no country should shelter terrorists wanted by courts.

This position, as well as various bilateral issues, are included in a joint declaration signed by President Luis Alberto Lacalle and Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev. Herewith is the text of the declaration

1. In response to an invitation from President Luis Alberto Lacalle Herrera, Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev paid an official visit to Uruguay on 9-11 June.

2. The illustrious visitor held official talks with President Luis Alberto Lacalle Herrera and Vice President Gonzalo Aguirre Ramirez in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

3. Bulgarian Foreign Affairs Minister Stoyan Ganev also met with his Uruguayan counterpart, Hector Gros Espiell, to exchange views on current international issues.

4. During the talks, the two ministers analyzed the possibility of expanding bilateral relations. They also reaffirmed their unconditional support for the international law that must rule relations among states and for the UN Charter's principles.

5. They reaffirmed their governments' commitment to strengthen democracy, which is the expression of the popular will in each country and the only system to guarantee peace, freedom, full respect for human rights, and economic development. President Lacalle congratulated President Zhelev for the reorganization and democratization process under way in Bulgaria, and noted the establishment of a government elected by the people after decades of totalitarianism.

6. They voiced their countries' will to actively contribute to the efforts to maintain international peace and to try to peacefully solve conflictive situations.

7. They expressed their decision to tighten bilateral cooperation within the framework of the United Nations and international organizations. They voiced their interest in promoting the continuation of the dialogue between Central and East Europe and the Rio Group member countries. To this end, they will promote the initiative of holding a joint meeting in some of the Rio Group countries and then in Bulgaria.

8. The two presidents expressed their concern over the Yugoslav crisis and their support for the efforts and measures of the EC, the CSCE, and the United Nations in trying to find a peaceful solution. The two countries will strictly respect the sanctions provided for in UN Security Council Resolution No. 757 with respect to Serbia and Montenegro. They reiterated Uruguayan and Bulgarian support for the principle of people's self-determination. This principle implies the recognition of each person's self-determination in the internal order as a personal right.

They also noted the importance of respect for states' borders, in compliance with the principle of territorial integrity, and the need to restore peace and stability in the former Yugoslavia as soon as possible.

9. As for relations with each of the former Soviet republics, they stated the need for these republics to accept the international commitments assumed by the former USSR, and to end ethnic and border conflicts.

10. They rejected terrorism regardless of its nature because they regarded it as an attempt against humanity,

democracy, and society itself. They said that no country should become a shelter for terrorists wanted by the court.

11. They agreed on the need to strengthen bilateral relations. In this regard, the Bulgarian Government's decision to reopen its embassy in Uruguay will help intensify relations in all areas of common interest.

They expressed their will to accelerate the bilateral economic relations process, and agreed that a joint ministerial commission should meet in Sofia, where global bilateral relations will be analyzed.

12. The Uruguayan Government expressed its satisfaction with Bulgaria's request to join the GATT, as well as its decision to cooperate with the Accession Commission.

13. During the visit, a cooperation agreement between the Artigas Foreign Service Institute and the Bulgarian Foreign Relations Ministry was signed. This agreement will allow better training for both countries' diplomatic personnel and favorably contribute to developing relations between the two foreign ministries.

14. The Uruguayan and Bulgarian foreign ministries agreed to create a mechanism of cooperation and consultation between their institutions.

15. It also was decided to promote the implementation of the bilateral cultural, education, and science agreements signed in Sofia on 21 October 1985.

Venezuela

President Rejects U.S. Supreme Court Decision

PA1706021692 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2049 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Caracas, 16 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Today President Carlos Andres Perez labeled the U.S. ruling on kidnapping suspicious criminals in third countries for trial in U.S. courts as a "supranational pretension."

Perez told reporters that Venezuela "has always opposed supranational pretensions on the part of the United States or any other country."

The president added that "a nation can act only within its own territory, and it is impossible to accept one nation's judicial or political jurisdiction over other nations' territories."

Perez explained that those attributions cannot be accepted "unless international agreements are reached freely among the nations."

On the struggle against drug trafficking, Perez appeared to be in favor of creating a "supranational" framework through international agreements to combat, control, and punish that crime.

In the beginning of the year, Venezuela accepted the installation of two U.S. radar stations in the eastern and western parts of the country to detect irregular air and maritime operations in the Caribbean, particularly those of drug traffickers en route to the United States. The radar equipment that should be installed in the coming months will be operated by Venezuelan soldiers. That was the condition Perez gave before accepting the agreement with Washington.

Perez did not comment on whether the U.S. legal ruling would have an effect on bilateral cooperation with the United States regarding the struggle against drug trafficking or if the current extradition agreement would be revised.

Meanwhile, the opposition Social Christian Party—the second political force—rejected the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling that makes Washington "the self-appointed world policeman."

Perez, who is also senator for life, demanded a "very clear stance" from the Venezuelan Congress, the Supreme Court of Justice, and the Foreign Ministry to reject the U.S. position.

Perez, New Defense Minister Make Statements

PA1606132392 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Report by Ricardo Mateus]

[Text] Air Force General Ivan Dario Jimenez Sanchez has been sworn in as new defense minister in a ceremony led by President Carlos Andres Perez and Gen. Fernando Ochoa Antich, who handed over his powers.

Cadets from the four military forces participated in a parade at the Defense Ministry field as part of the event attended by top military officers, government ministers, and distinguished guests.

Gen. Fernando Ochoa Antich, the outgoing defense minister, delivered a speech in which he said this ceremony is a constitutional ritual. The surrendering of the Defense Ministry is part of the reorganization of the top military command. He added that the rotation of the defense ministers has prevented the formation of cliques for achieving the internal control of the institution.

Afterward, Gen. Ivan Jimenez Sanchez, who is the new defense minister, said the military organization has faced threats from opponents of the constitutional regime, which tried to attack national stability in all areas.

[Begin Jimenez Sanchez recording] The Armed Forces do not want coups. I will repeat it as often as necessary. We oppose military coups because it hurts the country and the biggest losers are the Armed Forces themselves. We cannot think about staging coups. We must eliminate that word from our vocabulary. I would like to ask the

media to eliminate it as well. Help me so that my administration is a better one. [end recording]

After the ceremony, President Carlos Andres Perez said there is no military crisis in the country.

[Begin Perez recording] The military command is being transferred according to the Constitution. This is an exemplary event that should make all sectors of the country reflect on the need to respect the Constitution and to make sure it is properly being complied with. [end recording]

The new defense minister said the Armed Forces are investigating the weapons found by the Judicial Technical Police during recent raids.

COPEI Leader Cardozo Rejects Perez Resignation

PA1606145892 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Hilarion Cardozo, president of the Social Christian Party [COPEI], has rejected the idea that President Carlos Andres Perez should step down. Cardozo described the Fedecamaras [Venezuelan Federation of Associations and Chambers of Commerce and Industry] proposal as one worthy of Pinochet.

COPEI leaders met at 1000 on 15 June to consider several proposals to solve the crisis. They finally favored a meeting with an open agenda in order to reach a great national understanding. It was agreed not to express a specific stance until the suggested meeting is held. The organizing committee will be determined next week. Because of the seriousness of the crisis, nearly all sectors of the country are expected to participate.

[Begin Cardozo recording] The country's crisis has specific causes. The entire country has had a hand in it because of the mistakes made. [end recording]

Asked about the Fedecamaras proposal for a solution without the political parties, Cardozo said the proposal is very typical of Pinochet.

[Begin recording] [Cardozo] This proposal has been presented in Latin America by fascist governments such as Pinochet's. Governments like his reasoned like this: The power of the Armed Forces—and bear in mind that Fedecamaras asked to include the Armed Forces—the brightest minds of the economic world, and technocracy working together can govern the country.

[Unidentified reporter] Is the Fedecamaras president seeking a Pinochet-like coup?

[Cardozo] I reject the formula proposed as a fascist formula, one worthy of Pinochet. [end recording]

Cardozo clarified, however, that the businessmen's participation is necessary for the national understanding that his party is seeking. He insisted that the meeting proposed should be held no later than three or four days from now.

AD Supports Perez

PA1606231292 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpt] The National Executive Committee of the Democratic Action [AD] party confirmed its total support for President Carlos Andres Perez. The announcement was made by AD Deputy Secretary General Luis Emilio Rondon.

[Begin recording] [Rondon] That was one of the topics discussed during a meeting of the National Executive Committee on 10 March, and our position is no different than that of the party's national directorate, which has ratified its support for President Carlos Andres Perez' administration.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you not think the people should decide on that since sovereignty lies with them?

[Rondon] Of course. Sovereignty lies with the people, and they elected a president for a five-year term. Those are the rules established in the Constitution, and it would be absurd to try to change the people's decision to have Carlos Andres Perez as president half way through the term. [end recording]

The National Executive Committee of Copei [Social Christian Party] did not discuss the proposal presented by Deputy Pasiano Padron to shorten the presidential term. [passage omitted]

MAS Withdraws Support for AD, Copei

PA1706035692 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 8 Jun 92 p 13A

[Text] During its National Directorate meeting, the Movement Toward Socialism [MAS] political party certified that "a line of national understanding with Copei [Social Christian Party] is not suited to MAS interests." The National Directorate agreed to reevaluate the disposition that existed before 4 February to support the social Christian government.

A document disclosed by MAS Secretary General Freddy Munoz points out that "the 1992 electoral process constitutes a special opportunity to positively express new demands for changes that have appeared since the political crisis began on 4 February. The people can promote a new phase of democratic development through the electoral process. They can also strengthen the possibilities for the creation of a victorious alternative to AD [Democratic Action] and Copei in 1993."

The MAS National Directorate believes that the party's policies regarding alliances "must be oriented toward those candidates who identify with the progressive renovation of democracy and who can achieve success as governors and mayors. It is of utmost importance to MAS to contribute to having this option expressed wherever possible".

The document states that the displacement of AD and Copei from the traditional hegemonic position both parties have held in directing regional and local public affairs will result in a desirable transformation of Venezuela's political life.

"MAS candidates are receiving broad and significant popular support in several states and municipalities, which offers a clear and certain possibility of victory. In evaluating this new fact, the General Directorate commits itself to providing the necessary support for these candidates to broaden their respective popular electoral base in a civil society and in political currents not necessarily partisan or traditional."

On the other hand, the MAS leadership declares that the establishment of electoral agreements with AD is not compatible with this party's policies or interests.

Likewise, the MAS leadership affirms that "it is not suited to MAS interests to promote a line of national understanding with Copei. The disposition to support Copei's governors that existed before 4 February must be evaluated in light of national political changes and decisions adopted by Copei's official leadership to implement, in association with AD, a conservative solution to the crisis."

Nevertheless, MAS leaves open the possibility that "dissident forces with their own official policies or personalities who are perceived positively in their local environment may obtain MAS' nomination for the office of mayor and even governor. Considering this eventuality, MAS must first contemplate the relevance of diverse types of support and understanding surrounding such an option."

With respect to alliances in the electoral circuit, which by its very nature is an election process less influenced by national political motivations, "MAS must be flexible enough to strive and emphasize opportunities for those candidacies that, while expressing local motivations for change, may at the same time ensure the movement's progress."

"Our separation from AD and Copei must not lead us to sectarianism or to belittle the dialogue mechanism and its relationship with the electoral bases. These bases are in conflict today, largely because of the official policies of those two parties."

Students Stage Disturbances in Caracas, Valencia

PA1606193392 Paris AFP in Spanish 1832 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Caracas, 16 Jun (AFP)—High school students from east-central Caracas staged disturbances on 16 June, while in Valencia, 100 km west of Caracas, university students set a soft drink delivery truck on fire, reliable sources reported.

Reporters at the site reported that groups of students from the University Prep School located on Libertador Avenue, which joins downtown Caracas with the business sector to the east, protested and demanded the resignation of President Carlos Andres Perez.

In the industrial area of Valencia, groups of university students became violent and set a truck on fire. According to radio reports, the riot police had to use tear gas to disperse the students. Other reports add that students peacefully marched at about noon through the northern area of Barquisimeto, 320 km west of Caracas.

Student disturbances continue spreading throughout Venezuela for a fourth consecutive week with street riots. There have been riots in El Tocuyito, 320 km to the west, which is still under military control as of 16 June; in Merida, 500 km southwest; and in Barcelona, 200 km east of Caracas.

The National Student Coordinating Board has announced that on 18 June high school students will carry out protest marches throughout the country.

'Violently' Protest Bus Fares

PA1706024092 Paris AFP in Spanish 2356 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Maracaibo, Venezuela, 16 Jul (AFP)—Students protested violently against an announced bus fare increase in Maracaibo, 500 km west of Caracas, while some 20 business establishments were looted in Calabozo, the local news agency, INNAC, reported on 16 June.

The Maracaibo students held up traffic along the city's main avenues and burned tires, while public transporters announced they will go on strike on 17 June to demand a transportation fare increase, which the regional government must authorize.

The disturbances on 16 June affected Barquisimeto, 260 km west of Caracas, where a Pepsi Cola truck was burned. The Andean city of Merida, 500 km southwest of the capital, was shaken on 15 June by disturbances in which a tourist bus was burned. The disturbances spread to Caracas and neighboring Valencia, where a beverage truck was also burned.

For four weeks, violent disturbances—mostly staged by students—have shaken Venezuela's cities on a daily basis. The demonstrators have been demanding the resignation of Social Democratic President Carlos Andres Perez. They have also been protesting the high cost of living and police repression.

Poll Says Government Responsible for Crisis

PA1706013192 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 8 Jun 92 pp A1, D2

[Text] According to an opinion poll of 600 Caracas residents from 30 April to 3 May carried out at the request of the Ministry of Defense, Venezuela's most urgent problems are: public insecurity (68.8 percent);

inflation and the high cost of living (66.7 percent); corruption (32.3 percent); poverty, hunger, and misery (20.5 percent); and unemployment (20.3 percent).

The poll was conducted among men and women ages 18 to 50 or older in the A, B, C, and D socioeconomic levels. In those groups, 68.4 percent declared themselves politically independent, 10.3 percent were sympathetic to the Democratic Action Party, 12 percent favored the Social Christian Party, 3.5 percent favored the Movement for Socialism, 3.8 percent favored R Cause, and 2 percent named other groups.

The results indicate that in view of the prevailing insecurity and economic instability, those polled regard the future as uncertain and think a military coup is the most appropriate solution as the Armed Forces is one institution that still enjoys a certain degree of credibility. Nevertheless, the people want to go on living in a democracy. While 81.7 percent said they prefer that type of government, only 12 percent favored a military government, and 6.3 percent expressed no preference. Those polled maintained that the political class, headed by Carlos Andres Perez, the government, and the Congress, is largely responsible for the crisis. The respondents also said they do not want to vote because they are disappointed.

The poll touched upon six topics: the local political situation, the activities of Interior Minister Luis Pinerua Ordaz, various people's images, citizens' security, the democratic system, and the coming elections.

The pollsters advise that one month after the survey was taken the situation might have changed because of recent events such as the detention of former guerrillas, the elimination of the PVP [suggested retail price], and the Pinerua-Fermin conflict.

The conclusion, however, is that things are going wrong in Venezuela. The political situation is unstable and Perez' handling of the crisis is poor. Respondents point to the president, his government, and the politicians as being responsible for the widespread crisis. Perez and the Congress are held responsible for the economic crisis. There was hesitation, however, when people were asked whether Perez should resign or stay in office to the end of his term. They are sure all of the members of Congress should resign and a new Congress, as well as new governors and mayors, should be elected. The respondents take a dim view of Congress and the parties. Among institutions, the Prosecutor General's Office enjoys the most support: 49 percent.

Much was expected from the appointment of the interior minister, but his term has been regarded as negative. The people say he has done nothing right, that all he has done is repress the people.

There is a negative opinion of Perez, Fernandez, Pinerua, and Ochoa Antich. That negative opinion is slightly reduced in the case of Perez. On the contrary, 73.4 percent favored writer Arturo Uslar Pietri, 58.3 percent favored former president Rafael Caldera, and 64.7 percent favored rebel officer Chavez. Uslar and Caldera enjoy a stable positive opinion, but opinion on Chavez tends to waiver.

Regarding people's security, the strongest opinions were expressed on the probability of a coup, which the majority think could be staged shortly. The coup would be justified by the present economic crisis, apathy on the part of the government and politicians, general dissatisfaction, and corruption. Only at the end does the dissatisfaction of the military appear as a probable cause.

The only two things preventing a situation of force from occurring are the desire to live in a democracy and the good situation of the Armed Forces.

The state security institution with the greatest credibility is the Army with the National Guard coming in second. The respondents did not trust the Metropolitan Police at all, and the Miranda Municipal Police and the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services [DISIP] a little.

At the time of the poll, Uslar did not rule out the probability of a coup, there were rumors of seeking outside protection for the president, the president said the fiscal situation was tight, and Minister Pinerua announced the removal of a DISIP commissary so planes could be used to transport people unrelated to the agency. In addition, the 1 May parade was held, a strike was declared at IMAU [expansion unknown], and beef and milk price increases were announced.